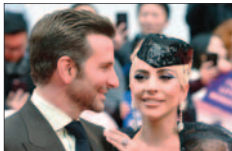


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'THAT GUY'S A WARRIOR'

Rodgers rebounds from injury, rallies Packers past Bears

Story, Page 30



Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers reacts after throwing a 75-yard touchdown pass to Randall Cobb during the NFL season's opening weekend in a game against the Chicago Bears in Green Bay, Wis., on Sunday.

MIKE ROEMER/AP

Woodward: Trump risked provoking North Korea into war with a tweet

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — President Donald Trump drafted a tweet calling for the evacuation of family members of U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, nearly provoking a war with the North, the author of a new book about the administration said.

Americans on a major military base in Seoul took the reported revelation in stride, saying having family present is a boost for morale but they will do as ordered.

"If it's for the safety of the families, the dependents and children, of course," America Sotres said Monday as she had lunch in the food court at Yongsan Garrison with her soldier husband and 3-year-old twins. "It's hard on families to be split up, but it's like any other deployment."

The tweet was proposed as tensions soared over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program, with Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un trading threats in a fierce war of words, Bob Woodward said in an interview with CBS News that aired Sunday.

It's not the first time the idea has been raised. Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham called for families of military personnel to be evacuated in December, shortly after North Korea successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile.

Woodward called it the most "dangerous moment" of the standoff, which has subsided with a series of diplomatic moves that began earlier this year and peaked on June 12 with

SEE TWEET ON PAGE 3

'He drafts a tweet saying "we're going to pull our dependents from South Korea — family members of the 28,000 people there."

Bob Woodward
author, "Fear: Trump in the White House"

Chaos grips Kabul as thousands of gunmen storm streets

By SAYED SALAHUDDIN
Special to The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — Ordinary life came to a standstill in the Afghan capital on Sunday with businesses largely shut and many people forced to stay indoors as thousands of young men brandishing knives and assault rifles took to the streets and fired indiscriminately, mostly into the air.

The chaos, which lasted for more than eight hours, further underlined the weakness of U.S.-backed President Ashraf Ghani's

Taliban attack Afghan security forces in north, killing at least 52

Page 5

government, which is locked in deep internal discord and is facing rising militancy.

The firing — including by masked teenagers riding in convoys of motorcycles and vehicles with tinted windows — left at least

13 people wounded, according to the Public Health Ministry.

It was part of an annual commemoration of the death anniversary of Ahmed Shah Massoud, a top anti-Taliban commander who was slain 17 years ago by suspected al-Qaida operatives posing as journalists.

The gunmen drove at high speed from one part of the city to another on Sunday, firing various types of weapons. In some parts, the firing was so intense that it was reminiscent of the civil war era in Afghanistan.

SEE KABUL ON PAGE 5

MILITARY

Soldier leans on training to rise above bullying

By Aaron Knowles
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Imagine that one day, out of nowhere, you discover that you are famous.

You didn't do anything positive. You didn't do anything negative. You were just you.

You are now the butt of a joke on the internet and you've gone viral. And people who've never met you now either love or hate you.

Pfc. Andrew Hartmann, a soldier with the 66th Transportation Company in Germany, had that happen to him.

"I was on a mission in Poland," Hartmann said. "When I came back, one of my buddies had tagged me in a post on Facebook saying that someone had turned me into a meme."

Hartmann's likeness had been compared to Bobby Hill, a child character from the popular television show "King of the Hill."

The original meme was posted on the Salty Soldier Facebook page in August 2017. It has more than 11,000 likes, almost 2,000 comments and more than 10,000 shares.

Hartmann's initial reaction to the meme was calm and relaxed. He thought to himself, "OK, I can't change it and it's kind of funny."

After a while, as the meme continued to gain momentum across the internet, reactions took a nasty turn.

"It was funny at first," Hartmann said. "But then people just started to demean me. It started to really become a problem when complete strangers started calling me a disgrace to the military, telling me that I wasn't worth the military's time ... It got to the point where people started telling me to kill myself."

His chain of command and co-workers noticed that he was no longer himself and that the negative response to the meme was taking a toll on him.

"He had a sort of darker demeanor," said Sgt. 1st Class Mario Coursey, platoon sergeant for 1st Platoon, 66th Transportation

Company. "You could tell something was wrong and that he had a lot on his mind."

Coursey, who is a certified master resiliency trainer, or MRT, kept an eye on him. The MRT program is designed to help soldiers be more resilient on and off the battlefield.

"Everyone made sure that if Hartmann wanted or needed help, he would get it," Coursey said.

But in the end, that wasn't necessary, he said.

"Being an MRT, we learn ... how to conquer those issues," Coursey said. "You could see that he was using his training. You could see him benefit from it. He became very outgoing, he became more engaged, and he knocks out his tasks and asks questions to do so."

Hartmann began to use the negativity to motivate himself to work harder, personally and professionally.

"I couldn't let it interfere with me doing my job," he said. "I could either let it get me down and depressed, or become an alcoholic or get out of the military, but I just couldn't let it do that to me. I am a better person than that."

At the same time he found a reserve of strength within himself, he got help from some unexpected defenders on the internet.

"I also had friends, family and other servicemembers come to help me out and stand up for me to those internet trolls," he said. "They told people about me as a person, my character and that I am the type of

'It was funny at first. ... It started to really become a problem when complete strangers started calling me a disgrace to the military.'

Pfc. Andrew Hartmann



Courtesy of Pfc. Andrew Hartmann

Pfc. Andrew Hartmann, right, was the victim of pranksters who made a meme of him in 2017. The meme, comparing his likeness to that of Bobby Hill from the show "King of the Hill," continues to be shared today.

person to give the shirt off my back if someone needed it."

The reaction gave him the sense he was part of something bigger. Hartmann said he will now push himself to be a leader.

"I am going to use what I've learned to help those and teach others to be resilient," he said. "That is just one thing that I can do to support my soldiers when I get them."

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PACIFIC



No Han Guan/AP

North Korean students take part in a torchlight march held in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of North Korea's founding day celebrations in Pyongyang on Monday.

N. Korean students stage rally as anniversary celebrations wrap up

By ERIC TALMADGE
Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea — Tens of thousands of North Korean students rallied in Pyongyang's Kim Il Sung Square on Monday night in the final major event of the country's 70th anniversary, an elaborate celebration that has showcased the nation's aspirations for economic growth and Korean unity.

The rally featured a sea of university and high school students carrying torches that spelled out giant slogans and words when seen from above the square. Leader Kim Jong Un did not attend.

This year's anniversary downplayed the missiles and nuclear weapons that brought the country to the brink of conflict with the United States just one year ago.

It highlighted what has been a series of stunning recent changes for North Korea, beginning with Kim's announcement on New Year's Day that he would seek better relations with the South and that the North was willing to participate in the Winter Olympics held in South Korea.

He followed that up with an announcement in April that he would stop nuclear tests and long-range missile launches, claiming that, having perfected his nuclear arsenal, he was ready to pursue talks with Washington on easing tensions on the Korean Peninsula. That, in turn, led to a flurry of summits with Beijing and Seoul and an unprecedented summit with President Donald Trump in Singapore three months ago.

Kim's effort to present a more diplomatic and less belligerent image was reflected throughout this weekend's 70th anniversary events.

In a sharp contrast to its previous two parades — in April last year and just before the Olympics began in February this year — North Korea refrained from displaying its long-range missiles at the military parade it held on Sunday.

It also revived its iconic mass games after a five-year hiatus with a spectacular and decidedly peaceful and forward-looking performance. At one point, the show featured giant images of Kim shaking hands with South Korean

President Moon Jae-in at their first summit, in April, in the Demilitarized Zone that divides their two countries. The image of the two Korean leaders was met by loud applause and cheers from the audience at the 150,000-seat May Day Stadium.

Kim himself has kept publicly quiet during the anniversary. He made no speech at the parade or at the mass games' opening performance.

Senior North Korean officials, meanwhile, have stressed the country's confidence in its ability to both maintain a strong military and build up its domestic economy. They have studiously avoided bragging about their nuclear weapons but at the same time haven't referred to any plans for denuclearization.

Kim's moves seem to be paying off. Trump quickly tweeted his satisfaction that no ICBMs were rolled out for the parade, which he called a "big and very positive statement from North Korea."

"Thank you To Chairman Kim," he added. "We will both prove everyone wrong! There is nothing like good dialogue from two people like that like each other!"

He didn't provide more details in the interview that aired Sunday, but the Telegraph reported that the book claims the tweet was proposed earlier this year and "scared the daylight's" out of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis.

The report was the latest in a series of excerpts released before the book goes on sale Tuesday.

Trump has denounced the book. The White House called it "nothing more than fabricated stories, many by former disgrun-

US, North Korea resume talks on war dead remains

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — While the United States and North Korea struggle to get nuclear talks back on track, negotiators moved forward with efforts to bring home the remains of more American troops killed in the 1950-53 Korean War.

U.S. and North Korean generals met Friday in the truce village of Panmunjom to discuss the next step, a spokesman said, more than a month after 55 cases said to contain the remains of U.S. servicemembers were repatriated.

The talks came as the longtime adversaries are otherwise locked in a diplomatic stalemate over efforts to persuade the North to abandon its nuclear weapons program.

"Participants discussed military-to-military efforts to support any potential future return of remains," United Nations Command spokesman Col. Chad Carroll said Sunday in an email. More details were not released.

The return of the 55 cases in late July was the first such repatriation in more than a decade. President Donald Trump hailed it as a tangible outcome of his June 12 summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

But experts noted it was just the start of a long process, with more than 7,600 Americans still missing from the war, including 5,300 believed to have been lost in North Korea.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported that Air Force Maj. Gen. Michael Minihan, who is chief of staff for the UNC and U.S. Forces Korea, and North Korean Lt. Gen. An Ik San were the chief delegates at the meeting.

Trump and Kim agreed at the Singapore summit to resume the long-stalled search for the remains, "including the immedi-

ate repatriation of those already identified," as part of a four-point declaration that mainly focused on a promise to try to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula.

The return of the 55 cases fulfilled part of that promise, but U.S. officials are pushing to resume searches in North Korea.

The recently returned remains, mostly bones and other fragments, were flown to Hawaii for analysis and identification.

Joint U.S.-North Korean military search teams recovered 229 caskets containing American remains from North Korea between 1996 and 2005.

The U.S. conducted 33 investigative and recovery operations in the country before former President George W. Bush's administration called off the search, claiming the safety of American participants was not guaranteed.

Critics at the time also argued the North was using the program to extort money from Washington, prompting the label "bones for bucks."

The last repatriation was in 2007, when then-New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson traveled to Pyongyang and returned with six sets of remains.

The State Department has said no payment was made for the remains received in July.

Negotiators, meanwhile, are working to resume diplomatic efforts after Trump canceled a planned trip to the North by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, citing frustration over slow progress on denuclearization.

The new special U.S. envoy to North Korea, Stephen Biegun, will travel to Seoul, Beijing and Tokyo during a weeklong trip that started Monday.

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Tweet: Report says draft tweet 'scared the daylight's' out of defense secretary

FROM FRONT PAGE

an unprecedented summit between Kim and Trump.

"He drafts a tweet saying 'we're going to pull our dependents from South Korea — family members of the 28,000 people there,'" Woodward said as he discussed his book "Fear: Trump in the White House."

Woodward, whose reporting on the Watergate scandal led to the downfall of the Nixon administration, told CBS the tweet was

never sent because of back-channel communications with North Korea that made clear that an evacuation would be a sign the United States was preparing to attack.

"At that moment, there was a sense of profound alarm in the Pentagon leadership that, 'My God, one tweet and we have reliable information that the North Koreans are going to read this as an attack is imminent,'" Woodward said.

ted employees, told to make the president look bad."

The U.S. has maintained troops on the peninsula since the 1950-53 Korean War, which ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty. Many bring their families with them.

Sotres, of Austin, Texas, said she was concerned when her husband was deployed to South Korea nearly a year ago but she wanted to keep the family together.

"There were sleepless nights,"

she said, adding that after the recent moves toward peace, "It's fine."

Army Spc. Sarai Fong, who brought her husband and four children to Seoul earlier this year, said they have participated in biannual military exercises preparing for the possibility of evacuations.

"I'm just blessed that they got to come with me, but we'll do what the Army says is best," she said.

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MILITARY



KENNETH ABBATE/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Sailors render honors Monday for Capt. Patrick "Fin" Hannifin during a change-of-command ceremony aboard the USS Ronald Reagan while at sea.

USS Ronald Reagan welcomes new commander with ceremony at sea

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The nation's only forward-deployed aircraft carrier welcomed a new leader during a ceremony at sea Monday.

Capt. Patrick "Fin" Hannifin assumed command of the Yokosuka-based USS Ronald Reagan from Capt. Michael "Buzz"

Donnelly, according to the ship's official Facebook page.

Hannifin previously served as commanding officer of the Norfolk, Va.-based amphibious transport dock ship USS Arlington. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and received a master's in international relations from the University of San Diego, according to his Navy profile. The formal naval aviator also was

selected to attend the Air Force's Test Pilot School.

Donnelly's next assignment was not immediately clear. He had commanded the Ronald Reagan since 2016.

The carrier deployed last month to patrol the Indo-Pacific region.

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Military academies take top 3 spots on US News & World Report's list

BY ZLATI MEYER
USA Today

Three service academies are the top public national liberal arts schools in U.S. News & World Report's new 2019 college rankings.

The U.S. Military Academy was first, followed by the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The result's not too surprising. The ranking of public national liberal arts schools was exactly the same for 2018, and the Naval Academy, the Military Academy and the Air Force Academy made up the top three for 2017.

U.S. News uses a variety of factors to compile its annual rankings, which include Best Colleges for Veterans picks for schools that participate in federal initiatives helping veterans and active-duty servicemembers pay for their degrees.

This year, for the first time, the schools were evaluated based on how well they enroll and graduate low-income students. The report also breaks out the colleges where students get the best value for their money after need-based

grants kick in.

That now includes an analysis of the graduation rates of students who receive Pell Grants, federal subsidies for low-income students, and the differences in graduation rates of Pell Grant students and students who didn't receive that funding. As part of the U.S. News methodology shift, the category called student outcomes, which was weighted 30 percent last year, is now at 35 percent.

"A university is not successful if it does not graduate its students, which is why the Best Colleges rankings place the greatest value on outcomes, including graduation and retention rates," Robert Morse, chief data strategist at U.S. News, said in a statement. "By including social mobility indicators, U.S. News is further recognizing colleges that serve all of their students, regardless of economic status."

Here are the top schools in some of the major categories:

- Best national universities**
1. Princeton University
2. Harvard University

3. Columbia University (tie)
3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (tie)
3. University of Chicago (tie)
3. Yale University (tie)
Best national liberal arts colleges

1. Williams College
2. Amherst College
3. Swarthmore College (tie)
3. Wellesley College (tie)
Best public schools
National universities

1. University of California-Los Angeles
2. University of California-Berkeley
3. University of Virginia
National liberal arts colleges

1. United States Military Academy
2. United States Naval Academy
3. United States Air Force Academy
Best value schools
National universities

1. Princeton University
2. Harvard University
3. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Guard activates, Navy ships depart as storm nears

BY ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — As Hurricane Florence gains strength in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean on its path toward the U.S. East Coast, military installations and the National Guard are preparing for the worst.

Between North Carolina and South Carolina, 1,000 Guard members have been activated as the Category 4 storm with winds reaching 130 mph continues to move toward the two states, predicted to make landfall by Thursday night.

The Virginia National Guard also has mobilized an unspecified number of troops.

At Naval Station Norfolk and Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek in Virginia, 30 ships are preparing to go out to sea, the U.S. Fleet Forces Command announced Monday. Ships will be directed to areas of the Atlantic where they will be best postured to avoid the storm.

"Our ships can better weather storms of this magnitude when they are underway," U.S. Fleet Forces Command Adm. Christopher Grady said in a news release.

Navy installations in Hampton Roads, Va., have begun to prepare for the storm, which includes securing hazards throughout the installations, removing debris from drainage areas, designating alternate parking areas for flood-prone areas, salvaging flood-prone areas, topping off fuel in generators and government vehicles, and relocating trash bins and equipment to more secure areas.

South Carolina has activated 735 soldiers and 500 airmen to assist during the hurricane, said Lt. Col. Cindi King, a spokeswoman for the state National Guard. In the next 24 hours, the state will activate another 150 Guard members and possibly more troops the next day.

"Preparations are taking place, [so] units are ready to go when missions kick off," King said.

Some immediate assignments will include aerial and ground support for South Carolina Highway Patrol if lane reversals are issued to speed potential evacuations from the coast. Troops also could provide security support and assistance to law enforcement as well as sandbag and hauling missions.

In North Carolina, 215 Guard members were activated as of Monday, integrating into the state's emergency management disaster response plan, said Lt. Col. Matt DeVivo, spokesman for

the state National Guard. An additional 7,000 Guard soldiers and airmen are ready to mobilize if needed.

Troops are trained and prepared to assist with flood victim rescues; swift water rescues; warehouse and supply transport; shelter support; distribution of food, water and supplies; communications support; road closures; critical site security; helicopter aquatic rescue teams; and damage assessment, DeVivo said.

The governors of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia declared states of emergency far ahead of the approaching storm.

"This storm is strong and it's getting stronger," North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper said during a Monday news conference. "The best safety plan is preparation and common sense."

'Our ships can better weather storms of this magnitude when they are underway.'

Adm. Christopher Grady
U.S. Fleet Forces
commander

Fort Bragg, N.C., asked post residents to clear their yards of lawn items and branches that could blow away and damage property and to come up with family evacuation and communication plans.

Camp Lejeune, N.C., posted Monday that it has begun pre-staging supplies, personnel and equipment. Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia asked personnel not to leave vehicles parked on the base because of potential flooding.

Fort Jackson, S.C., is about 150 miles west of the coast, but also is warning residents to stay alert. Farther south, Fort Stewart, Ga., officials posted messages to social media asking its residents to stay alert and aware of potential changes to the path of the storm.

Since reliable record-keeping began more than 150 years ago, North Carolina has been hit by only one Category 4 hurricane, Hazel, with 130 mph winds, in 1954.

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.
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WAR ON TERRORISM

Taliban attack Afghan security forces in north

BY RAHIM FAIEZ
AND AMIR SHAH
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Taliban insurgents launched separate attacks on Afghan security forces in the country's north, killing at least 52, provincial officials said Monday.

Mohammad Yusuf Ayubi, head of the provincial council in Kunduz province, said that at least 13 security forces were killed and 15 others wounded in an attack on a checkpoint they were manning in Dashti Archi district. The firefight began late Sunday and continued into Monday morning.

Meanwhile in Jawzjan province, Provincial Police Chief Gen. Fagir Mohammad Jawzjani said the Taliban attacked Khamyah district from different sides, forcing Afghan forces to withdraw from the district headquarters to avoid civilian casualties.

"There was intense fighting and we didn't want civilian houses destroyed, or any civilian casualties," said Jawzjani. He said

that at least eight policemen were killed and three other police were wounded. Seven Taliban were killed and eight were wounded during the gun battle, he added.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the group for the attacks in Kunduz and Jawzjan provinces.

The Taliban also killed another 14 local Afghan policemen and pro-government militiamen in the Dara Suf district of Samangan province, provincial spokesman Sediq Azizi said, adding that six others were also wounded.

Azizi added that three Taliban fighters were killed and four others wounded during the Monday morning battle.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack in Samangan, but Azizi blamed Taliban insurgents that are active in the province and often target Afghan security forces and local, pro-government militias.

Meanwhile in the northern Sari Pul province, the provincial governor, Zahir Wahdat, said that the Taliban killed at least 17 Afghan security forces and wounded

three others in attacks across the province.

He said that 39 Taliban fighters were killed and 14 others were wounded in the battles, adding that the death toll could rise.

Gen. Abdul Qayum Bazqai, the provincial police chief, said at least two security forces were killed in the battles.

"The Taliban's attack has been repelled, but sporadic gun battles are underway at the outskirts of the city," Bazqai added.

Since a June cease-fire that marked the Islamic holiday of Eid al Fitr, Taliban insurgents have ramped up attacks against Afghanistan's security forces killing hundreds of security personnel in increasingly well-coordinated assaults across the country.

During the three-day cease-fire, pictures circulated of Taliban arm-in-arm with Afghan security forces, singing and taking selfies together. Outraged Mohammad Yaqub, the son of the Taliban's founder, Mullah Mohammed Omar, circulated a harshly worded audio tape condemning the fraternization.



Since then attacks against military installations have been relentless, and on several occasions the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSA) have been outgunned and out maneuvered. Even Washington's watchdog,

the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan's Reconstruction (SIGAR), in successive reports noted weaknesses within the security forces, including desertions, inadequate training and corruption.



NABIL AL-JURANI/AP

Security forces affected by tear gas are helped by several protesters during demonstrations in Basra on Wednesday. Iraq prime minister Haider al-Abadi visited the city Monday.

Iraqi PM visits Basra after weeklong protest

Associated Press

BASRA, Iraq — Iraq's embattled prime minister Haider al-Abadi visited the southern city of Basra on Monday, where 15 people were killed in weekend protests over poor public services and soaring unemployment.

The visit came two days after al-Abadi and Basra governor Abdul-Aziz al-Aidani got into a shouting match in front of cameras in Parliament over who was to blame for Basra's failing services.

The prime minister, who took office in September 2014, is under pressure to resign, as Basra convulses with the worst unrest it has seen in years.

Demonstrators returned to the streets Monday night, after one day of calm, demanding al-Abadi leave Basra.

Al-Abadi met with city and religious leaders in a gathering closed to the press.

The unrest comes as lawmakers in Baghdad are deadlocked over selecting a new prime minister, after the country held elections in May.

But there are calls now on al-Abadi to give up on seeking a second term.

On Monday, the office of the country's highest Shiite authority, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, said he would not support any former prime ministers to return to the top post.

Kabul: Crowd disperses after suicide bombing

FROM FRONT PAGE

Some of the young men were only kids — and some were not even born — when Massoud passed away. Several chanted, "Long live Massoud."

Massoud's family and old comrades distanced themselves from the day's events.

The firing subsided and some of the gunmen dispersed when a suicide bomber on a motorcycle targeted part of the convoy in a central area of Kabul.

Initial reports showed that three men in the convoy were killed and 14 were wounded, but officials said the toll could rise.

Earlier in the day, security forces said they opened fire and wounded a man seeking to blow himself up in a crowd of torchers at the memorial built for Massoud close to the U.S. Embassy.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the reported attempt and the deadly blast, although Islamic State has been behind such attacks in recent years in Afghanistan.

Police said they arrested scores of the marchers and seized some vehicles, actions that many dismissed as futile attempts by the government to demonstrate control of the situation.

With parliamentary polls next month and a presidential vote in April, the scenes on Sunday shocked many people.

"I think everyone has had enough," Saad Mohseni, director of the MOBY Group and a man known as Afghanistan's media mogul, said in a tweet.

"They can commemorate at a stadium or somewhere out of the city. Kabul, a city of 5 million, cannot get hijacked because of a few hundred people," Mohseni wrote.

As the day was coming to an end, there were reports that dozens of security personnel had perished in Taliban attacks.

The deadliest one occurred in northern Baghlan province, where the militants overran an army base after hours of clashes.

Turkey braces for surge of Syrian refugees

Bloomberg

Turkey massed tanks and commandos at its frontier and accelerated work to cope with a possible surge of refugees after Russia refused to call off an offensive against the last rebel bastion in Syria.

Howitzers and armored cars were also headed for the border with Syria's Idlib province on Monday, according to state-run Anadolu Agency, and the army reinforced 12 outposts on Syrian territory where Turkish soldiers along with Russians and Iranians monitor flare-ups of violence, ac-

cording to reports.

Turkey regards the presence of its troops inside Idlib as a deterrent against a large-scale assault by forces of Syrian President Bashar Assad and his allies. The Russian jet fighters and the regime ground forces cannot afford attacks while Turkish soldiers are there," Ibrahim Kalin, spokesman for President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, wrote in a newspaper column at the weekend.

Turkey is worried fighting will push a new wave of refugees toward its border, while the routing of moderate rebels triggers the

collapse of international peace efforts supposed to guarantee Ankara-backed forces a say in post-war Syria. President Donald Trump has warned Assad against committing a "slaughter" in the Syrian province.

Turkey's worries over Syria aren't limited to Idlib. It is also alarmed by efforts by U.S.-backed Kurdish YPG forces — regarded by Ankara as an affiliate of PKK separatists it has been battling for decades — to recapture northern areas held by Turkish forces. The fall of Idlib could make their defense harder.

NATION



MICHAEL KUNZELMAN/AP

Police tape surrounds the house where Askia Khafra died in a September 2017 fire while digging underground tunnels for a secretive campaign to build a nuclear bunker in Bethesda, Md.

Deadly Md. fire exposes wealthy man's secret underground tunnels

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

BETHESDA, Md. — The wealthy stock trader took elaborate steps to conceal the network of tunnels beneath his house in this Washington suburb. Even the young man helping him dig them didn't know where they were.

A year ago, a deadly fire exposed Daniel Beckwitt's curious campaign to build an underground bunker for protection from a nuclear attack. Neighbors knew nothing about the tunnels before they heard Beckwitt's screams and saw smoke pouring from the house where Askia Khafra, 21, died that afternoon.

Maryland prosecutors portray Beckwitt, 27, a millionaire, as a paranoid computer hacker who recklessly endangered Khafra's life. In May, they secured Beckwitt's indictment on charges of second-degree murder and involuntary manslaughter.

Beckwitt's lawyer called



Beckwitt

Khafra's death a tragic accident, not a crime. Defense attorney Robert Bonsib conceded Beckwitt is an "unusual guy" but said his client risked his own life in a failed attempt to rescue Khafra.

Beckwitt was freed on bond after his May arrest. His trial is scheduled for April 2019. Monday marked the anniversary of the Sept. 10, 2017, fire. It's a day that Khafra's parents have dreaded.

During a recent interview at their Silver Spring, Md., home, Dia Khafra, 69, said he and his wife, Claudia, tried to persuade Askia Khafra to stay away from Beckwitt's tunnels. Their son met Beckwitt online and agreed to help him dig the tunnels in exchange for Beckwitt's investments in an internet company Askia Khafra was launching.

"I always feared something dangerous would happen to him," the elder Khafra said.

Investigators found the younger Khafra's charred body in the basement of Beckwitt's Bethesda home. A hole in the concrete basement floor led to a shaft that dropped 20 feet into tunnels that branched out roughly 200 feet in length.

A police report says Beckwitt told investigators how he tried to preserve his project's secrecy

when he brought Khafra there. Beckwitt said he would rent a car, pick Khafra up and drive him to Manassas, Va., where he had the younger man don "blackout glasses" before driving him around for about an hour. Khafra spent days at a time working, eating and sleeping in the tunnels. He had his cellphone with him, but Beckwitt used internet "spoofing" to make it appear he was in Virginia, according to Montgomery County prosecutor Douglas Wink.

"These are the lengths the defendant went through in order to hide the truth from Askia Khafra as to where he was and to maintain the secrecy of these tunnels," Wink said during a May 31 hearing.

Beckwitt lived alone in "extreme border conditions," forcing the men to navigate a maze of junk and trash, Wink said. The tunnels had lights, an air circulation system and a heater powered by a "haphazard daisy chain" of power strips that created a fire risk, the prosecutor said.

Hours before the fire, Khafra texted Beckwitt to warn him it smelled like smoke in the tunnels. Beckwitt flipped a breaker that turned off lights in the tunnels but turned the power back on after Khafra said he couldn't see, Wink said.



Moonves

CBS chief Leslie Moonves is latest executive felled in the #MeToo era

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The #MeToo movement fighting sexual misconduct had already claimed one of Hollywood's top movie moguls in Harvey Weinstein. Now it has done the same for Leslie Moonves, one of the television industry's most powerful executives.

The CBS Corp. announced its chairman's exit Sunday night,

hours after The New Yorker magazine posted a story with a second round of ugly accusations against Moonves. A total of 12 women have alleged mistreatment, including forced oral sex, groping

and retaliation if they resisted him. Moonves denied the charges in a pair of statements, although he said he had consensual relations with three of the women.

CBS said \$20 million will be donated to one or more organizations that support #MeToo and workplace equality for women. That sum will be decided by any severance due Moonves, a figure that won't be determined until an

US threatens ICC sanctions, closes Palestinian office

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration pledged Monday to protect Americans and their allies from prosecution by the International Criminal Court for alleged war crimes and human rights violations in Afghanistan and other conflict zones and ordered the closure of the Palestinian diplomatic mission in Washington, citing the refusal of Palestinian leaders to enter into peace talks with Israel.

In remarks to the conservative Federalist Society, national security adviser John Bolton said the court is "illegitimate" and threatens the "constitutional rights of Americans and U.S. sovereignty."

"The United States will use any means necessary to protect our citizens and those of our allies from unjust prosecution by this illegitimate court," Bolton said.

"We will ban its judges and prosecutors from entering the United States" if the ICC pursues an investigation of U.S. troops in Afghanistan. "We will sanction their funds in the U.S. financial system and we will prosecute them in the U.S. criminal system. We will do the same for any company or state that assists in an ICC investigation of Americans."

Bolton also said the United States would close the Palestinian office in Washington — a move the Palestinians claimed dismantles decades of U.S. engagement with them.

The State Department said the U.S. step — the latest in a series targeting the Palestinians — came after a review of the office of the Palestine Liberation Organization centered on the fact that no "direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel" are underway despite previous warnings.

"To the contrary, PLO leadership has condemned a U.S. plan they have not yet seen and refused to engage with the U.S. government with respect to peace efforts and otherwise," spokeswoman Heather Nauert said in a statement. "As such, and reflecting congressional concerns, the

administration has decided that the PLO office in Washington will close at this point."

The Trump administration had told the Palestinians last November that closure could be expected unless they agreed to sit down with the Israelis. The administration, however, has yet to release its own much-vaunted but largely unknown peace plan although it said it still intends to do so.

"The United States continues to believe that direct negotiations between the two parties are the only way forward," Nauert said in her statement. "This action should not be exploited by those who seek to act as spoilers to distract from the imperative of reaching a peace agreement. We are not retreating from our efforts to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace."

She also said the closure decision was consistent with U.S. concerns about Palestinian attempts to prompt an investigation of Israel by the International Criminal Court.

Bolton's announcement follows concern at the Pentagon and intelligence agencies about potential U.S. liability to prosecution at the court over actions in Afghanistan, The Washington Post reported. The newspaper, citing an unidentified senior administration official, said the Trump administration questioned whether the ICC has jurisdiction to investigate actions of U.S. citizens in Afghanistan because Afghan, U.S. and U.S. military law all could apply in different situations.

The head of the PLO delegation to the U.S. accused the Trump administration of "dismantling decades of U.S. vision and engagement in Palestine."

"Weaponizing humanitarian and developmental aid as political blackmail does not work," Palestinian Ambassador Husam Zaidi said.

President Donald Trump has promised to pursue the "ultimate deal" between the Palestinians and Israel. However, such a deal is unlikely given Palestinian mistrust of his administration.

outside investigation led by a pair of law firms is finished.

The network's chief operating officer, Joseph Fanniello, will take over Moonves' duties as president and CEO until its board of directors can find a permanent replacement, CBS said. Moonves ruled first the programming, then the full network and other corporate entities such as Showtime for two decades. CBS consistently has been the

most-watched network on television, even as changes transformed the industry, first with cable networks' investing in shows and then streaming services like Netflix. He's been paid handsomely for his success, earning just less than \$70 million in both 2017 and 2016.

Yet accusations emerged against the former actor last month from six women who accused him of misconduct.

NATION

Commutations in Calif. receive mixed reviews

By ROB KUZNA

Special To The Washington Post

LOS ANGELES — Thomas Yackley fatally stabbed two men at a party. Kimberly LaBore took part in a home invasion that ended with one person dead. Virgil Holt killed his boss at a fast-food restaurant shortly after he'd been fired.

All are among the 20 killers serving life sentences that were recently commuted by California Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat. With barely four months left in office, California's longest-serving governor is granting forgiveness to record numbers of criminals.

Brown has handed out more than 1,100 pardons benefiting a wide array of individuals, including those convicted of dealing drugs, driving while intoxicated and forgery. The tally is staggeringly greater than the totals of his immediate predecessors. Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger granted 15 pardons, and Democrat Gray Davis ended with zero.

Perhaps more remarkable are the commutations, which grant parole hearings to — and often spell early release for — criminals who previously may have had no chance of ever being paroled. Brown has issued 82 in the past seven years, far more than any California governor since at least the 1940s. Criminal justice reformers nationwide applaud him. Victims rights advocates are livid.

"2018 is the worst I've ever seen it," said Patricia Wenskunas, founder and chief executive of the Crime Survivors Resource Center. "The sad reality is, California is

'The sad reality is, California is not a victim-friendly state. It's an offender-friendly state.'

Patricia Wenskunas

founder and CEO of the Crime Survivors Resource Center

not a victim-friendly state. It's an offender-friendly state."

California was once a leader in tough-on-crime policies that turned its prisons into inmate warehouses. Then in 2011, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that overcrowding in the state's prison system amounted to cruel and unusual punishment. The decision accelerated a wave of legal reforms that have reduced the prison population by 25 percent.

A course correction

Brown's commutations for the 20 murder convicts were tucked into a larger batch of pardons and commutations that he handed out last month. The designation isn't synonymous with freedom but amounts to a reduction of an original sentence. For these 20 men and women, most of whom had been sentenced to life in prison with no possibility of parole, it means they'll be granted a hearing.

The governor sees his action not as a sign of lenience so much as a societal course correction.

"There has been an overshoot in the time many people expect [criminals] to be

locked up in a cage or cell," he said in an interview.

In the 1970s, those convicted of first-degree murder tended to serve about a decade for their crimes, he noted; now, it isn't unusual for such sentences to span a half-century.

Longtime prisoners who are making a good-faith effort to turn their lives around should have a shot at getting out, said Brown, a former Jesuit seminarian. "I think there's wisdom in having the possibility of hope."

Nazgol Ghandnoosh, a research analyst at the Sentencing Project, a criminal justice advocacy group based in Washington, said she has never seen so bold a move to spur early release for people convicted of violent crimes.

"It really stands out," she said — in a good way, she added. Prisoners serving time for such offenses tend to age out of crime. "As a country, we need to move away from life without parole as a sentence altogether."

Many California lawmakers and public safety officials have a different, harshly critical view of the governor's move.

Michele Hanisee, president of the Association of Los Angeles Deputy District Attorneys, said the latest commutations "are motivated by [Brown's] personal phi-

losophy of deincarceration." Republican Assemblyman Matthew Harper, of Orange County, called the commutations "deeply concerning."

An injustice

To victims rights advocates, the commutations feel like an injustice.

"Governor Brown, can you commute my daughter and bring her back?" said Jennifer Lundy, whose 3-year-old was killed in 1993 by a man living with her family. "What have you done to restore my life?"

Whether California's prison purge and Brown's decisions have made the state less safe are unclear. In addition to his pardons and commutations, the governor has approved parole for more than 2,300 "lifers" sentenced for murder.

Yet, while the violent crime rate rose by nearly 4 percent in 2016 — the most recent year for which data are available — it was still half of the peak levels seen during the early 1990s, according to a report by the Public Policy Institute of California.

Also, Brown has rejected parole for people whose sentences he commuted. In 1994, Susan Lee Russo, of Fresno County, paid a man \$100 to kill her husband so she could collect insurance money. Russo claimed in her application for clemency that her husband, who was fatally shot in the head, had physically abused her.

The parole panel recommended her release, triggering an outcry from a group of Republican lawmakers and law enforcement officials. Brown concluded that she "has more work to do."

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NATION

‘WAKE-UP CALL’

Some prompted to move away to new lives following 9/11

By JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

On 9/11, Stephen Feurman saw the World Trade center aflame through the window of his Empire State Building office and watched, transfixed, as a second fireball burst from the twin towers.

He ran through the 78th floor urging everyone to get out, thinking their skyscraper could be next. With transit hubs shut down, he couldn't get home to his family in suburban Westchester for hours.

Shaken by the experience, the apparel broker, his wife and their two small children moved within four months to a gracious South Florida suburb they figured would be safer than New York.

So it was until this past Valentine's Day, when mass violence tore into Parkland, Fla., too.

"There really is no safe place," said Feurman, whose children survived but lost friends in the massacre that killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

He still feels the family made a good move after 9/11, and he feels all the more attached to Parkland since the shooting plunged him into a whirlwind of events and advocacy on school safety and other issues.

"We've had a good life here," he said. "And again, this could have happened anywhere."

The Sept. 11, 2001, terrorism attacks prompted the Feurmans and an uncounted number of others to move quietly away from their lives near the hijacked-plane strikes that killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, at the Pentagon and in a Pennsylvania field.

Some sought safety. Some placed a new importance on living near family. Others re-evaluated what they wanted from life.

As the attacks' 17th anniversary approached, The Associated Press caught up



Feurman



GERRY BROOME/AP

Tom and Heather LaGarde are seen on Tom's tractor at their home near Saxapahaw, N.C., on Aug. 29. The LaGardes left New York following the events of 9/11.

with some who left and asked if they found what they were looking for.

Scott Dacey

About 30 weeks a year, Scott Dacey drives from his home near New Bern, N.C., to Washington for a few days. The 350-mile trips are a price the federal lobbyist pays for peace of mind after Sept. 11.

He and his wife, Jennifer, once expected to stay in the Washington area for years. Then came the strike on the Pentagon and the new feeling of living under heavy security in northern Virginia.

"It really made us have a wake-up call: 'How do we want to live our lives?'" Scott said. "Do we want to be up here in this rat race of Washington, D.C.?"

Or raising kids somewhere less on guard and closer to family?

The couple's 2002 move meant extra costs, including a Washington apartment. Jennifer, already a lawyer, had to take a second bar exam in North Carolina.

But the move also opened new opportunities. Scott is a county commissioner and ran for Congress. A Republican, he never considered seeking office when they lived in Democratic-leaning northern Virginia. And their children, 17 and 15, grew up in a town ranked among the state's safest.

"It would not be for everybody, but for us, it's been the right fit," Jennifer said. "We're outside the bubble, and this is how America really lives."

The LaGardes

Heather and Tom LaGarde loved New York and didn't want to leave, even after they watched the twin towers burn from their rooftop on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

But over time, "we were very unmoored



JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

Michael Koveleski, left, speaks during an interview alongside his wife, Margery, at their store, Design Sleep, in Yellow Springs, Ohio, last month. The Koveleskis also left New York after the 2011 terrorist attacks.

by 9/11," Heather said. "Even though I wasn't physically harmed, just to see it that close changes your perspective. ... Your priorities change."

It felt harder and harder to stay in New York. Their nonprofit work — hers in human rights, his running a roller basketball program for neighborhood kids he'd founded after playing for the Denver Nuggets and other NBA teams — depended on fundraising that lagged in the rocky economy after the attacks. Friends moved away.

At first, the ramshackle North Carolina farm they spotted online in 2002 was going to be only an occasional getaway. But in 2004, the LaGardes moved into the farm near small-town Saxapahaw with two children, a few months' consulting work for Heather and no plan beyond that.

Having no plan evolved into starting an architectural salvage company; a popular free music series and farmers' market; a humanitarian innovation conference; and the Haw River Ballroom, a music venue in an old mill the couple helped renovate.

"We try to echo some of what we loved" in New York, Heather said, "but living in an easier, simpler, more natural place."

The Koveleskis

There had to be a better way to live, Michael and Margery Koveleski thought.

A furniture designer, Michael sensed emotional burnout surrounding him as he worked in lower Manhattan after 9/11. Security measures lengthened his commute from Queens, devouring his time with the children. And two months after the terrorism attacks, American Airlines Flight 587 crashed near the Koveleskis' home, killing 265 people.

The next spring they moved to Springfield, Ohio, where they had church friends.

If a better way, it wasn't always smooth. It was initially a challenge for the Koveleskis' children to be the new, mixed-race kids — Michael is white, while Margery has Haitian heritage — in an area less diverse than Queens. And Michael struggled to find work in the shaky post-9/11 economy.

He discovered it by founding his own business, Design Sleep, which sells natural latex mattresses and platform beds. It's now in its 14th year.

"You're only going to change your life when things are bad — or terrible," Michael said. "I am thrilled at the way it came out."

World Trade Center 1 towers over the lower Manhattan skyline in New York last week.

MARK LENNHAN/AP



NATION

New Miss America glad she didn't have to don swimsuit

By WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The first woman to win the Miss America crown without having to don a swimsuit says she's glad she didn't have to.

Nia Imani Franklin, who won the title Sunday night in Atlantic City while competing as Miss New York, said the changes in the 98-year-old contest are a welcome modernization.

Meeting reporters soon after winning the crown, Franklin said she's glad there was no swimsuit competition because it enabled her to eat a little more.

"These changes, I think, will be great for our organization," she said. "I've already seen so many young women reaching out to me personally as Miss New York, asking how they can get involved, because I think they feel more empowered that they don't have to do things such as walk in a swimsuit for a scholarship."

"And I'm happy that I didn't have to do so to win this title tonight because I'm more than just that," Franklin said. "And all

these women on stage are more than just that."

Her victory Sunday night resurrected a string of successes the Empire State has had in the pageant in recent years. Mallory Hagan, Nina Davuluri and Kira Kazantsev won the title from 2013 to 2015 competing as Miss New York.

A classical vocalist whose pageant platform is "advocating for the arts," Franklin sang an operatic selection from the opera "La Boheme" on Sunday night.

She wrote her first song at age 5. It went "Love, love, love, love, is the only thing that matters to me, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey." At the prompting of an Associated Press reporter, she sang the song at her post-victory news conference as audience members snapped their fingers.

Franklin won a \$50,000 scholarship along with the crown in the first Miss America pageant to be held without a swimsuit competition.

She said during her onstage interview that she was one of only a small number of minority students in school growing up, but

used her love for music and the arts to grow and to fit in.

The fourth runner-up was Miss Massachusetts Gabriela Taveras, the third runner-up was Miss Florida Taylor Tyson, the second runner up was Miss Louisiana Holli' Conway, and the first runner-up was Miss Connecticut Bridget Oei.

The judges narrowed the field of 51 candidates during the pageant Sunday night from Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall.

The decision to drop the swimsuit competition created a good deal of controversy and criticism of current Miss America leadership. Minutes before the nationally televised broadcast began, a comedian warming up the crowd mentioned that there would be no swimsuit competition this year and was met with loud boos in the hall.

The swimsuits were replaced by onstage interviews, which have generated attention-grabbing remarks from contestants regarding President Donald Trump and NFL player protests, among other topics.

Behind the scenes, a revolt



NOAH K. MURRAY/AP

Miss New York Nia Franklin, center, reacts Sunday after being named Miss America 2019 in Atlantic City, N.J.

is underway among most of the Miss America state organizations who demand that national chairwoman Gretchen Carlson and CEO Regina Hopper resign. The former Miss America, Cara Mund, has said the two have bullied and silenced her, claims that the women deny.

Upon taking over at the helm of the Miss America Organization last winter following an email scandal in which former top leaders denigrated the appearance, intellect and sex lives of former Miss Americans, Carl-

son and Hopper set out to transform the organization, dubbing it "Miss America 2.0." Unhappy with how the swimsuit decision was reached, as well as with other aspects of Carlson and Hopper's performance, 46 of the 51 state pageant organizations (the District of Columbia is included) have called on the two to resign.

Mund appeared only at the very end of the pageant before the next winner was crowned. She was not allowed to speak live; instead a 30-second taped segment of her speaking was broadcast.

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NATION



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE GOUDGE FAMILY/AP

Transplant recipient Terra Goudge, right, and her friend, Amy Aleck, wave on April 7 before a procedure in which Aleck donated a piece of her healthy liver to Goudge.

Doctors explore lifting barriers to organ transplants from living donors

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Surgeons turned down Terra Goudge for the liver transplant that was her only shot at surviving a rare cancer. Her tumor was too advanced, they said — even though Goudge had a friend ready to donate, no matter those odds.

“I have a living donor — I’m not taking away from anyone. I’m trying to save my own life,” she pleaded. Finally, the Los Angeles woman found a hospital on the other side of the country that let the pair try.

People lucky enough to receive kidneys or parts of livers from living donors not only cut years off their waits for transplants, but those organs also tend to survive longer. Yet living donors make up a fraction of transplants, and their numbers have plateaued amid barriers that can block otherwise willing people from giving. Among them: varying hospital policies on who qualifies and the surprising financial costs that some donors bear.

Now researchers are exploring ways to lift those barriers and ease the nation’s organ shortage.

“We just want people to be given the chance to at least entertain this as a possibility,” said Dr. Abhinav Humar, transplant chief at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where Goudge ultimately received part of friend Amy Aleck’s liver.

Thousands of people die each year waiting for organ transplants. Nearly 14,000 are on the waiting list for liver transplants. Of 8,082 transplants last year, just 367 were from living donors, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing, or UNOS, which oversees the nation’s transplant system.

Living kidney donations are more common but still not enough to meet the need. About 95,000 people are on the kidney waiting list. Of 19,849 transplants last year, 5,811 were from living donors.

Also troubling, black and Hispanic patients are less likely than whites to receive kidneys from living donors, and a study in the Journal of the American Medical Association earlier this year found the disparity

‘It’s a strange thing to tell you that donors have to pay for the privilege of donating their kidneys.’

Dr. Paige Porrett

surgeon with the University of Pennsylvania

is growing.

One hurdle is economic. The transplant recipient’s insurance pays the donor’s medical bills. But donors are out of work for weeks while recuperating. The U.S. Labor Department last month made clear that a donor’s job can be protected under the Family Medical Leave Act. But that’s unpaid leave — and donors lose income if their employer doesn’t allow some form of paid time off. They also may have other expenses such as travel and hotel bills for visits to far-away transplant centers.

One study found more than a third of living kidney donors reported lost wages in the first year following donation. The median amount was \$2,712, particularly difficult if asking economically disadvantaged friends or family members for organs.

“It’s a strange thing to tell you that donors have to pay for the privilege of donating their kidneys. I think most of us would agree that’s just fundamentally wrong,” said Dr. Paige Porrett, a surgeon with the University of Pennsylvania.

Penn is one of half a dozen transplant centers testing whether reimbursing a donor’s lost income could shorten the wait for a kidney.

“The community’s in a real bind about how we can help them,” Porrett said. “It’s a fine line that it doesn’t get misconstrued that we’re paying people for their organs.”

Another challenge: Living donation too often is considered as a last resort rather than a first choice, said Pittsburgh’s Humar — especially for liver transplants. His hospital is trying to change that and last year performed more adult liver transplants from living donors than deceased



Organ donor Aleck visits with Goudge on April 19 after Goudge’s liver transplant. After Goudge was turned down for a transplant from a deceased donor, the California women traveled to the University of Pittsburgh for the living-donor transplant.

ones, a milestone.

The liver is unique, able to regenerate a few months after a donor gives a piece. But it is a larger and riskier operation than donating a kidney.

And that sparks an ethical debate. Many people with failing livers aren’t allowed onto the national waiting list for organs from deceased donors. That’s because the scarce supply is rationed, given only to those with the best survival chances. But what if patients who don’t qualify find living donors? Should the donor be allowed to undergo a risky surgery if the recipient’s predicted survival isn’t quite as good?

Goudge, the California patient, had been fighting a rare condition called fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma since 2001. A variety of treatments kept her cancer in check for years but eventually it overwhelmed her liver. While Goudge’s con-

dition isn’t as aggressive as typical liver cancer, it was more advanced than transplant waiting list rules allow — and the first surgeons she consulted said living donation wasn’t an option either.

Then she stumbled onto the Pittsburgh program. Humar said living donation could allow transplants for many patients who otherwise would never get them — either because too many people are ahead of them on the waiting list or because they weren’t listed.

After extensive evaluation of both patient and would-be donor, Humar decided Goudge had a good enough shot at prolonged survival to justify the risk to her friend. In April, his team replaced Goudge’s liver with a healthy piece of Aleck’s. Both recovered well.

“She is truly a walking miracle for me,” Goudge said.

NATION



PHOTOS BY LEAH NASH/The Washington Post

Left: Biologist Johnnie H. French poses with some of the 35,000 specimens in the reference collection he manages at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Ore. **Above:** Veterinary pathologist Rebecca Kagan examines a golden eagle, a protected bird that was suspected of being electrocuted by power lines, at the lab. **Below:** Pelts, skins and hides — some seized, some donated — pack the lab's off-site warehouse.

CSI: Wild Kingdom

When the crime victim is an animal, this lab is on the case

By KARIN BRULLIARD
The Washington Post

The young golden eagle on the operating table showed no outward signs of trauma. An X-ray had revealed no fractures.

But this bird, a protected species, was dead — and that's why it was here, beak-up in a laboratory. It had been shipped to this picturesque college town by federal agents somewhere in the West who suspected it had been electrocuted by power lines. Now, its carcass was evidence in an investigation that could lead to criminal charges against a utility company.

A veterinary pathologist was about to cut open the bird in the hope of determining its cause of death. This unusual federal facility in Ashland, Ore., the world's only full-service forensics lab for wildlife crimes, analyzes thousands of creatures that each year cross its threshold in the form of carcasses, parts and products. Its mission is to use science to find how the animal died — and often, to figure out what kind of animal it was.

"In police work, you know what your victim is — it's Homo sapiens," said Ken Goddard, a former crime scene investigator who now directs this place, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Laboratory. "Our first job is to figure out what a victim is."

A critical stop

Crime against wildlife is a multibillion-dollar global enterprise that experts say is only increasing as poaching and trafficking networks grow more sophisticated and move into dark corners of the internet. When authorities intercept that enterprise, this lab is often a critical stop in their investigations. Its scientists run DNA tests, examine bullets, identify poisons and compare remains to

some 35,000 specimens in the lab's reference collection — a ghastly panoply of pelts, bones, feathers and claws.

When 13 bald eagles turned up dead on a Maryland field two years ago, chemists here found they had been killed by a banned pesticide. When a mysterious werewolf-like canine was shot in Montana this summer, geneticists concluded it was merely an odd-looking wolf. When one member of an infamous Irish gang pleaded guilty last fall to illegally exporting a rhino horn cup, he did so after the lab determined the vessel was fashioned from an endangered great Indian rhinoceros.

Not that Goddard or his colleagues will tell you that.

"We never call to see how the case went in court," he said. "The gold star on the wall is a successful presentation, not a successful prosecution."

A long-held fascination

The one-story, 40,000-square-foot lab is a federal building, but it feels almost quaint compared with the fortresses in Washington. Visitors don't pass through metal detectors, though evidence is sometimes X-rayed upon arrival. A new parking lot barrier gate was installed this summer to deter truck bombers, not because of a specific threat, Goddard said, but because it's protocol at government facilities. Goddard half-jokes that some officials at headquarters do not even know the 34-employee lab exists.

But the lab is at the forefront of this kind of science. Its genetics refrigerators store tens of thousands of animal DNA samples. Deputy Director Ed Espinoza has made several breakthroughs, including a method for identifying types of ivory and the use of a mass spectrometer to determine the species, and sometimes origin, of wood — a growing target of traffickers. Biologist Johnnie French travels to

African countries to train rangers there on crime scene investigation techniques to use when they find poached rhinos and elephants.

But French's primary job is as a sort of curator and manager of a macabre collection that reflects humans' long-held fascination with gathering animals alive and dead. Room after room at the lab hold metal lockers and drawers bursting with specimens that have been seized by authorities or donated: a cabinet of silky big cat pelts, a tray of rainbow-hued birds-of-paradise, a freakish purse made from a monkey, the tanned and suede-like skin of an elephant's face.

French gives what he calls his "sights and smells tour," which begins with a small room where the larvae of flesh-eating beetles in transparent bins strip the meat from animal bones so that they can be analyzed for injury or stored for reference. Across the hall is French's prep room, where he skins and tans or taxidermies newly acquired samples.

"This guy's one of my favorites," said French, a former Army paratrooper, as he pulled a dead but very alive-looking Gaboon viper out of a walk-in freezer, one of several snakes seized in a federal investigation in Nevada. "This high school kid had 43 of the most venomous snakes in his room, and his mom had no idea."

A meaningful life

The lab handles mostly federal cases, but it is also the official lab for the 182 nations party to CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. Goddard was hired to help launch it in 1979, after what he describes as several years working as "a police crime lab director in Southern California digging up bodies out in the desert." The facility ended up in Ashland, a town flanked by two mountain ranges just north of the California border, in part be-



'In police work, you know what your victim is — it's Homo sapiens. Our first job is to figure out what a victim is.'

Ken Goddard

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Laboratory director

cause a local chiropractor pushed Oregon senators to support the project.

The lab began working cases a decade later, and Goddard, 72, who has the bass voice of a radio announcer, has been there since. He says the work has given him confidence that he'll look back on his professional life as meaningful; it's also provided fodder for his side gig as a crime novelist.

"A sense of humor is important," Goddard said as he stood among various animal products displayed in the morphology lab, which, he emphasized with a smirk, has never come across a sasquatch sample.

That afternoon, veterinary pathologist Rebecca Kagan carried the dead golden eagle into a back room and turned off the lights. Wearing red goggles, she held an alternate light source, the kind often used in forensics to detect fingerprints. But, as she and colleagues had discovered years before, it also can reveal electrical injuries on hair or feathers.

Kagan was surprised to find none on the bird, so she carried it

back to the elevated metal table. Soon, she found another surprise: Blood was pooled in spots inside the golden eagle, which she had begun to carve open.

"It's not really consistent with electrocution. Interesting," Kagan said. It could have been caused by the ingestion of rodent poison, she said, which chemists would have to determine.

Across the room, Tabitha Viner, also a veterinary pathologist, wore purple surgical gloves and listened to Simon and Garfunkel while examining a bald eagle that may have been struck by a wind turbine.

Viner, who previously worked at Smithsonian's National Zoo, had X-rayed her bird and now she was sitting in front of a computer inspecting the results.

"Both wings are fractured. This humerus is half-gone. This leg is fractured," she said, adding that all were signs of a high-speed, blunt-force impact more damaging than, say, a car collision.

"Our nation's icon," she said quietly as she continued her exam of the carcass. "Kinda broken."

WORLD

Boules players praised for stopping Paris knife attack

By SYLVIE CORBET
Associated Press

PARIS — Petanque players in Paris who helped in the apprehension of a knife-wielding man have been lauded Monday for their bravery as French authorities opened an investigation on suspicion of attempted murder after a man injured seven people in a knife attack in central Paris late Sunday.

According to police, witnesses at the scene of the attack in the northeast 19th district helped disarm and arrest the man near a cinema in a recreational area populated by both Parisians and tourists.

Some of those playing boules, also known as petanque, saw what was going on and threw their heavy metallic balls at the

attacker — with one hitting his head — before plainclothes policemen arrested the man.

On Twitter, French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb praised the “courage and reactivity” of those who intervened.

A judicial official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to discuss publicly an ongoing investigation, said the attacker was believed to be an Afghan national. He said terrorist motives were not suspected at this stage.

Paris police said four of the victims were in serious condition, including one in a life-threatening condition. Two British tourists were among those injured.

“The judicial investigation will determine the circumstances,” Collomb said.

Boudjema Hamani told The As-

sociated Press he was playing petanque with two friends when they saw people running and shouting. “Be careful, he has a knife!” Hamani and his friends ran after the attacker and threw their petanque balls as he was trying to stab people in the street.

At one point, another man, Reda Smain, managed to take the 15-inch knife away from the attacker.

They pushed the man on the ground and overpowered him until police came a few minutes later, Hamani said.

“Of course it’s scary. We are human beings; we’re not Superman so if we’re stabbed we’re going to die ... But we didn’t have time to think about it. We had the (petanque) balls with us, so we had a weapon, like him,” Hamani said.



THIBAUT CAMUS/AP

Police officers work Monday at the scene of a knife attack in Paris that injured several people late Sunday.

Smain told French network BFMTV that he struck the attacker’s left arm, which was holding the knife.

“I jumped on the knife, took it from his hand,” he said. “Then I fell with him and knocked him out.”

Man arrested after ramming car at airports

By JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press

PARIS — Pursued by police vehicles, a man smashed his car Monday into security barriers at two airports in Lyon, southeast France, and then crashed through two glass doors of a busy terminal and sped onto the runway before being arrested.

In scenes captured on amateur video, the car was seen hitting a bump, then going airborne and landing in a cloud of dust at Lyon’s international Saint-Exupéry airport.

The driver then jumped out while the vehicle was still rolling and sprinted off on foot, pursued by a police van.

Other police vehicles and officers on foot then tried to cut off his escape until one of them caught up with the suspect and wrestle him to the ground, the video showed.

The man’s motives were unknown and nothing was being ruled out, regional government press officer Christelle Montegudo said.

The man was first spotted driving the wrong way on the A43 highway that links Lyon to the Alps. Highway police and a police helicopter laid chase, the regional government said in a statement.

The man then rammed into security barriers at Lyon’s Bron airport used for business flights, before driving to the nearby, larger Saint-Exupéry airport, where flights were quickly suspended.

There, the man rammed through more security barriers.

Still chased by police, he then crashed through two glass doors at the airport’s Terminal 1 to drive onto the runways, authorities said.

All air traffic at the airport was halted. There were no casualties, authorities said.

The Lyon prosecutors’ office is investigating.



CHRISTINE OLSSON, TT/AP

Election workers unload posters with a portrait of Moderate Party leader Ulf Kristersson outside the party headquarters in central Stockholm, Sweden, on Monday, the day after general elections in Sweden.

Weeks of uncertainty ahead after close election in Sweden

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Sweden was looking at weeks of uncertainty and complex coalition talks after the country’s two rival blocs failed to secure a clear governing majority in elections that saw a boost for a far-right party — considered political pariahs — amid growing discontent with large-scale immigration.

The governing center-left bloc had a razor-thin edge over the center-right opposition Alliance, with roughly 40 percent each. However, both have vowed not to work with the Sweden Democrats, an anti-immigrant party with roots in a neo-Nazi movement, that won 17.6 percent in Sunday’s election, up from the 13 percent it gained four years earlier.

The party, which has worked to moderate its image in past years and wants the country to leave the European Union, gained votes amid a backlash against the challenges of integrating hundreds of thousands of immigrants who arrived in the Scandinavian nation over the past years.

Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, who brought the Social Democrats to power in 2014, said he intended to remain in the job. His party emerged with the greatest share of the vote — 28.4 percent as the count neared completion — yet looking at holding fewer parliament seats than four years ago.

“I will not exclude any alternative to the (present) government. What I can exclude is any direct or indirect cooperation with the Sweden Democrats,” Interior Minister Anders Ygeman, a Social Democrat said.

The leader of the Moderates party that came in second, Ulf Kristersson, has already called on Lofven to resign and claimed the right to form Sweden’s next government.

The center-right, four-party Alliance said it would meet to discuss how to move forward and demand that Lofven, head of the minority, two-party governing coalition, resign.

Final election returns were expected later in the week. The preliminary results made it unlikely any party would secure a majority of 175 seats in the 349-seat Riksdag, Sweden’s parliament.

2 killed in attack on Libyan oil company offices

By RAMI MUSA
Associated Press

BENGHAZI, Libya — Security forces of Libya’s U.N.-backed government Monday stormed the headquarters of the country’s national oil company in the capital, Tripoli, shortly after gunmen had gone into the building, shooting randomly, setting off explosions and taking hostages, officials said.

The Health Ministry said two people were killed and 10 others were injured in the attack, according to initial information. Health official Malek Mersat had earlier said that there were dozens of injuries caused by the gunfire, smoke inhalation or explosions.

At least one explosion rocked the building soon after the gunmen went in, starting a fire that swiftly spread through the lower floors, according to the officials.

Mustafa Sanallah, head of the Libyan National Oil Co., told a Libyan television channel that explosions and an exchange of gunfire between the attackers and the building’s security guards caused the deaths and injuries.

There was no word on the fate of the gunmen, described by Libyan officials as “terrorists,” or whether they were still holding hostages. It was not immediately clear either whether the security forces were in control of the building.

Earlier, the Interior Minister of the U.N.-backed government, Brig. Gen. Abdul-Salam Ashour, said the attack was carried out by six gunmen and that employees were inside the building when it took place.

The U.N. mission in Libya condemned the attack, describing it as “cowardly” and called on Libya to cease their “futile side conflicts” and unite to rid their nation of terrorism.

Monday’s attack followed recent fighting in Tripoli between rival armed groups, which left at least 61 people dead. A ceasefire has been in place since last week.

WORLD

International boycott movement jolts the Israeli music scene

By JOSEF FEERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's Meteor Festival was meant to bring together indie groups from around the world in what organizers billed as a Woodstock-like "cutting edge musical journey that surpasses borders and distorts time and space."

Instead, some 20 acts, including headliner Lana Del Rey, withdrew at the last minute amid apparent pressure from a Palestinian-led international boycott campaign.

The cancellations turned the weekend festival, held in the bucolic setting of an Israeli kibbutz, into the latest battleground between Israel and the boycott movement that says it seeks to end Israeli rule over Palestinians.

Campaign organizers claimed success, saying it reflects growing opposition to Israeli government policies among international millennials.

"The fact that these artists are canceling is showing just how different the younger generation is viewing Israel," said Diana Buttu, a Palestinian analyst who supports the movement known as BDS.

The campaign, founded in 2005, calls for boycotts, divestment and sanctions against Israeli businesses, cultural institutions and universities.

BDS says it seeks to end Israel's occupation of lands captured in the 1967 Mideast war and what it describes as discrimination against Israel's Arab minority. It calls for the "right of return" for millions of Palestinian refugees and their descendants to homes their ancestors fled or were expelled from in the 1948 war over Israel's creation.

The campaign compares itself

to the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, and its nonviolent message has resonated with audiences around the world.

Israel says the campaign masks a deeper aim of delegitimizing or even destroying the country.

Although BDS says it's pushed some companies and investment funds to curtail their activities in Israel, its economic impact appears to be modest. Israel's high-tech economy is humming along, making it an attractive base for corporate giants like Google, Apple, Microsoft and others. World leaders visit regularly to promote business ties.

Culture and academia have been easier targets. Virtually any artist who plans to perform in Israel these days can expect to come under pressure on social media to cancel.

A growing list of performers, including Israeli-American actress Natalie Portman and singer Lorde, have canceled appearances in Israel in recent months out of concern over Israeli policies.

Del Rey joined that list on Aug. 31 when she announced that she was withdrawing from the Meteor Festival after an intense BDS lobbying campaign. In a statement on Twitter, the Grammy-nominated singer said she was "postponing" until she could perform for both Israeli and Palestinian audiences.

Other no-shows included Of Montreal, a popular indie band that previously performed in Israel.

Del Rey did not explicitly endorse the boycott message, and Portman said outright that she does not support BDS. Del Rey and several artists who skipped the Meteor Festival did not respond to interview requests.

Iranian artists detained over Shakespeare play

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iranian authorities have detained two artists over a theatre production of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Cultural official Shahram Karami told the official IRNA news agency Monday that Iran's judiciary had ordered the detention of the play's director, Maryam Kazemi, and the manager of the theater that hosted it, Saeed Assadi.

Karami said both were taken into custody Sunday evening after the broadcast of a video trailer about the work. He said it had caused a "misunderstanding," but did not elaborate, adding that a court had agreed to release the two on some \$24,000 bail each.

A clip on social media showed female actors dancing with men

as part of the trailer, an illegal act under the Islamic Republic's strict rules that forbid gender mixing and women dancing in public.

The play was on stage for seven nights before the detentions. The comic fantasy tracks the intertwined fates of four lovers and is one of Shakespeare's most popular plays, but on by theater groups and schools around the world.

The police forces and hardliners who dominate Iran's judiciary reject western culture in Iran.

In July, Iran detained Maedeh Hojajiri, a teenage girl who posted dance videos online.

In 2014 authorities sentenced six young men and women to suspended prison terms after they appeared in a video dancing to Pharrell Williams' song "Happy."



ANDY WONG/AP

A man walks into the Zion church in Beijing in May. China is escalating a crackdown on Christian congregations.

Group says Chinese officials destroy crosses, burn Bibles

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
Associated Press

BEIJING — China's government is ratcheting up a crackdown on Christian congregations in Beijing and several provinces, destroying crosses, burning Bibles, shutting churches and ordering followers to sign papers renouncing their faith, according to pastors and a group that monitors religion in China.

The campaign corresponds with a drive to "Sinicize" religion by demanding loyalty to the officially atheist Communist Party and eliminating any challenge to its power over people's lives.

Bob Fu, of the U.S.-based group China Aid, said during the week-end that the closure of churches in recent weeks represent a "significant escalation" of the crackdown.

"The international community should be alarmed and outraged for this blatant violation of freedom of religion and belief," he wrote in an email.

Under President Xi Jinping, China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong, religious believers are seeing their freedoms shrink dramatically even as the country undergoes a religious revival. Experts and activists say that as he consolidates his power, Xi is waging the most severe systematic suppression of Christianity in the country since religious freedom was written into the Chinese constitution in 1982.

Fu also provided video footage of what appeared to be piles

of burning Bibles and forms stating that the signatories had renounced their Christian faith. He said that marked the first time since Mao's radical 1966-76 Cultural Revolution that Christians had been compelled to make such declarations under pain of expulsion from school and the loss of welfare benefits.

A Christian pastor in the Henan city of Nanyang said crosses, Bibles and furniture were burned during a raid on his church on Wednesday.

The pastor, who asked not to be identified by name to avoid repercussions from authorities, said several people entered the church just as it opened its doors at 5 a.m. and began removing items.

He said the church had been in discussions with local authorities who demanded it "reform" itself, but no agreement had been reached or official documents released.

Chinese law requires religious believers to worship only in congregations registered with the authorities, but many millions belong to so-called underground or house churches that defy government restrictions.

A local official reached by phone at the Nanyang city government disputed the account, saying officials respected religious freedom. The man declined to give his name, as is common with Chinese bureaucrats, while a person answering phones at the local religious affairs bureau said they were "not clear" about the matter.

In Beijing, the Zion church was

shut on Sunday by about 60 government workers who arrived at 4:30 p.m. accompanied by buses, police cars and firetrucks, the church's pastor, Ezra Jin Mingri, said Monday. Zion is known as the largest house church in Beijing, with six branches.

The officials declared the gatherings illegal and sealed off church properties, Jin said, after already freezing the pastor's personal assets in an apparent attempt to force him to comply with their demands.

"Churches will continue to develop. Blocking the sites will only intensify conflicts," Jin told The Associated Press by phone.

A notice posted Sunday on the website of the Chaoyang district government in Beijing said the Zion Church had been closed because it failed to register with the government.

All of China's officially recognized religions appear to have been affected by the crackdown. In the most extreme example, an estimated 1 million Uighurs and other members of Muslim minority groups in the country's northwest have been arbitrarily detained in indoctrination camps, where they are forced to denounce Islam and to profess loyalty to the Communist Party.

The government says it is taking necessary measures to eliminate extremism but denies setting up the camps.

China has an estimated 38 million Protestants, and experts have predicted that the country will have the world's largest Christian population in a few decades.

WORLD

More social treatment

In Congo, a less isolating center for Ebola patients allows closer contact by families

By AL-HADJI KUDRA MALIRO
Associated Press

Two times a day, Kasereka Mulanda comes to a new kind of Ebola treatment center to visit his wife, easing the isolation of a highly contagious disease.

Stepping to the clear plastic sheeting around the cubicle where his wife is staying, he can speak with her without the need for a protective suit. In a part of Congo that faces a deadly Ebola outbreak for the first time, the contact is reassuring.

"When she looks at me and smiles and asks how our two children are doing, I tell her they are well," said Mulanda, 24. "I feel that we are together again and that she will quickly return home."

The current Ebola outbreak in north-eastern Congo, declared on Aug. 1, has become a testing ground in more ways than one. More than 7,000 people have received an experimental Ebola vaccine. More than two dozen have received one of several experimental treatments. Simply combating the virus is a challenge in a densely populated region — roamed by multiple armed groups — that health workers have called a war zone.

Now, one aid group for the first time is treating confirmed Ebola victims in what is called the CUBE, individual biosecure units used in emergencies involving highly infectious diseases. The Alliance For International Medical Action, or ALIMA, runs the 18-bed center in Beni.

The cubicles, which have been used in outbreaks of Lassa fever in Nigeria and of Marburg in Uganda, allow the treatment of Ebola to be more social for worried families, said Dr. Oummani Rouafi, ALIMA's medical coordinator.

"It is very much unlike other centers where civilians cannot enter the treatment tents or approach what we call the 'red zone,'" said Claude Mahoudeau, the organization's emergency response coordinator in Beni.

With the cubicles, health workers can largely operate without the protective equipment that posed a sweaty, humid

challenge in the devastating West Africa outbreak in 2014-16, instead treating patients via external arm holes.

Of the 16 confirmed Ebola cases treated at the center, four people have recovered, four remain in treatment and eight have died. Overall, the outbreak in Congo's

'It is very much unlike other centers where civilians cannot enter the treatment tents or approach what we call the "red zone."'

Claude Mahoudeau
ALIMA
emergency response coordinator in Beni, Congo

North Kivu and Ituri provinces has seen 100 confirmed Ebola cases, including 58 deaths.

Health workers are tracking thousands of contacts of people and trying to persuade residents to use safe burial and other practices to limit the virus spread by the fluids of infected people.

The World Health Organization has expressed optimism that the efforts are working, but worries remain that the virus could spread into areas of active attacks by armed groups where it is unsafe to operate.

The threat was made clear on Aug. 3 when suspected Allied Democratic Forces rebels killed a civilian close to a base of the U.N. peacekeeping mission near Beni. Djamali Mussa, head of civil society in the community

of Mavivi, condemned the attack and called for more security for health workers.

At the new Ebola treatment center, fears about the hemorrhagic fever are calmed to some degree as family members pull up molded plastic chairs to the cubicles and even hold up small children to say hello.

While Mulanda said he likes the approach, he is eager to bring his wife home.

"We've been married for six years, and it's difficult to be alone and do the chores alone," he said.



PHOTOS BY AL-HADJI KUDRA MALIRO/AP

Clockwise from top: Kasereka Mulanda, 24, talks with his wife, who is suffering from the Ebola virus, in an isolation area of a treatment center in Beni, Eastern Congo, on Sunday; a health worker at the treatment center feeds a boy suspected of having Ebola; and another health worker is sprayed with disinfectant.



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Subway station reopens for first time since 9/11

NY NEW YORK — A New York City subway station has reopened for the first time since it was destroyed in the World Trade Center attack 17 years ago.

Cheers erupted as the first train rolled into the new WTC Cortlandt station at noon Saturday.

The old Cortlandt Street station on the subway system's No. 1 line was buried under the rubble of the twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001.

The new station cost \$181 million and features a mosaic that uses words from the Declaration of Independence.

Police hide camera in stroller, catch scofflaws

RI PORTSMOUTH — Police in a Rhode Island town had a surprise for motorists who ignore rules requiring them to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.

WPRI-TV reported that officers in Portsmouth conducted a sting operation to catch drivers in the act. An undercover police officer with a baby stroller made several attempts to cross a busy street in a crosswalk. The stroller carried a hidden camera instead of a baby.

The camera recorded a number of vehicles zipping through the crosswalk without stopping to allow the pedestrian to cross.

Police said they issued nine tickets in a span of a few hours.

Hundreds of fun-loving bicyclists ride nude

PA PHILADELPHIA — Hundreds of fun-loving bicyclists who had been gearing up for a ride around Philadelphia on Saturday took off — their clothes.

Some of the nude cyclists sported body paint, glitter or fancy hats as they made the annual Philly Naked Bike Ride, pedaling 10 miles on a course taking them past sights including Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.

Participants in the ride can go as bare as they dare. Some were in their birthday suits while others sported underwear or masks. The ride is to protest dependence on fossil fuels, advocate for the safety of cyclists on the road and promote positive body image.

Man says ex tried to sell his items online

WI STURTEVANT — A woman faces misdemeanor theft charges after her ex-boyfriend accused her of trying to sell his possessions online — everything from a swimming pool to sandwich baggies.

The Racine Journal Times reported that Ashley Marie Smith, 24, was arrested Thursday and held on an \$850 bond.

Racine police said her ex-boyfriend began noticing things missing from his home in March. Police said he contacted authorities in May after seeing his property for sale on Facebook and other online sites.

THE CENSUS

2 The number of pounds of cocaine that a man at an airport in Phoenix allegedly had in his checked bag. Phoenix police spokesman Sgt. Vince Lewis said Jason Buntis, 45, was arrested Saturday after agents with the Transportation Security Administration discovered the suspected drugs in the bag. Lewis said a flight was delayed briefly when the airplane returned to the gate at Sky Harbor Airport for Buntis to be arrested.



Flower power

Above: A woman takes photos of a sunflower field at Grinter Farms near Lawrence, Kan., on Saturday. The 35-acre field, planted annually by the Grinter family, draws thousands of visitors during the weeklong late summer blossoming of the flowers. Left: Kazushi Okada carries his daughter, Sakura, 10 months, through the sunflower field.

PHOTOS BY CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Pilots fly glider to world record over Argentina

NV LAS VEGAS — Pilots from a Nevada glider team flew to record heights above the Andes Mountains in Argentina using only wind as their engine.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal reported that an experimental sailplane built by a Minden-based Perlan Project team set an unofficial world altitude record for engineless flight on Sept. 2, then broke that record by more than a half-mile two days later.

Pilots Jim Payne and Miguel Turmudien flew the Perlan 2 aircraft to 63,776 feet on Sept. 4, 3,107 feet higher than the flight two days earlier by Payne and Morgan Sandercock. That's about 3 miles above the highest altitude used by commercial flights.

Highway rerouted for migrating debris blob

AK ANCHORAGE — Alaska highway workers

have moved the Dalton Highway away from a gigantic mass of frozen debris that is oozing down a hillside so the road doesn't get T-boned by the so-called blob.

Transportation officials said the roughly milelong frozen debris lobe — consisting of dirt, ice and trees — threatened to bulldoze away a section of the road more than 200 miles north of Fairbanks in three to four years.

The Anchorage Daily News reported Friday that motorists were rerouted onto the new gravel road starting Aug. 31. It will be 20 or so years until the blob can threaten the road again.

9-year-old breaks 2 national race records

KS WICHITA — A Wichita girl has become the fastest 9-year-old in the country.

Juliah Bolden won the 100- and 200-meter national championships in the 9-year-old division last month at the AAU Junior Olympic Games, the Wichita Eagle report-

ed. Juliah broke the national record in both races the year before in the 8-and-under division.

Juliah comes from a family of athletes. Her father led Wichita State basketball during the 1992-93 season. Her sister, Jewell, won seven Kansas high school state championships in track and field, and her mother, Shirley Bolden, was a three-time All-Big Ten sprinter at Michigan State and Big Ten Freshman of the Year in 1989.

Midafternoon shoeshine turns into a holdup

LA NEW ORLEANS — A midafternoon shoeshine in the heart of New Orleans' French Quarter turned into a holdup.

According to the city police department's "major offense log" for Saturday, a man, 62, and a woman, 22, were approached shortly before 4 p.m. Friday by a stranger.

The stranger asked if the man wanted his shoes shined. After the shoeshine, he offered

the stranger \$3.

He said the shoeshine man grabbed him and put him in a headlock, then let him go but grabbed the woman, demanding that they pay \$40.

Police said the two complied and the attacker ran off.

House is torched as owner burns weeds

ME BRUNSWICK — A Maine fire official said a homeowner accidentally torched her house while attempting to burn away weeds with a torch.

The Brunswick Fire Department said the woman contacted them last week after the side of her house caught fire.

The Portland Press Herald reported the homeowner and multiple pets made it out of the home without injury.

Fire Capt. David Hunter said the fire was extinguished quickly, and damage was confined to the front portion of the building.

From wire reports

FACES



NATHAN DENETTE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Lady Gaga, right, and Bradley Cooper, shown in Toronto, are getting raves for "A Star Is Born."

Movie buzz is born

Cooper/Gaga project the talk of Toronto Film festival

BY JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

The response to Bradley Cooper's romantic saga "A Star Is Born" has been intense. Critics have boasted of crying uncontrollably. Fans outside theaters have swooned for its star, Lady Gaga. Words like "glorious," "rapturous" and, of course, "gaga" are running rampant.

"Having been on the other side of it, when you do something that doesn't do well, people tend to avoid you," Cooper said in an interview alongside his co-star. "I don't see people, like, going the other way as I'm walking down the street."

Quite the contrary. Since making landfall at the Toronto International Film Festival, "A Star Is Born" has provoked the kind of mania rarely seen in even the feverish realm of a film festival. It's been hailed as "a transcendent Hollywood movie" (per Variety) and "damned near perfect" (per Rolling Stone).

And it has predictably flown to the top of Oscar prediction lists in just about every category, including its original songs. It's a breakthrough for Cooper, directing for the first time, and Gaga, who's leading a movie for the first time.

"I have been trying not to read any reviews.

But every once in a while, my friends will read over and go (shoving phone in face): 'You have to see this!'" Gaga said. "But I have to say truly, I feel like an audience member now. Watching the film back, it really impacts me on a deep emotional level."

It seems to be impacting the audience similarly. Even its trailer, watched by millions on YouTube (tinyurl.com/y90hbbq), has sparked a rare eagerness. Anthony Ramos, who plays a friend of Gaga's character in the film, said he's been constantly harangued about details making the film.

"It's lightning in a bottle, man," said Ramos.

"From the moment I stepped on set, the way Bradley works and the way Stefani (Germanotta, Gaga's real name) works, I was like, 'This could be crazy.' And sure enough, here we are, and people are buggin' out."

Cooper stars as seasoned rock star Jackson Maine, and Gaga as a struggling artist he falls in love with.

Warner Bros. will release the film Oct. 5 and is planning a sizable awards campaign. It's the third remake of the original 1937 film, following the 1954 version with Judy Garland and James Mason, and the more rocking 1976 version, with Barbra Streisand and Kris Kristofferson.

"Crazy Rich Asians" landed in second place for the first time in its four-week run. The rom-com added \$13.6 million, bringing its total North American earning to \$136.2 million.

Third place went to the R-rated Jennifer Garner revenge movie "Peppermint," which debuted with \$13.3 million, on par with expectations.

'Roma' wins top prize in Venice

"Roma," Alfonso Cuarón's intimate, black-and-white portrait of the women who raised him in Mexico City's turbulent 1970s, has won the top prize at the 75th Venice Film Festival.

The jury prize went to "The Favorite" by Yorgos Lanthimos, about the women sur-

rounding Queen Anne; Olivia Colman won best actress for her role as the queen. Best director went to Jacques Audiard for "The Sisters and Brothers." Willem Dafoe picked up best actor for "At Eternity's Gate," Julian Schnabel's homage to Vincent Van Gogh.

Other news

■ **"Serial,"** the widely popular investigative journalism podcast hosted by Sarah Koenig, will return for a third season on Sept. 20, producers announced Sept. 5. The first two episodes will drop on various podcast apps, including Apple and Google, and additional episodes will be released weekly on Thursdays.

■ **Stand Up To Cancer** says its sixth ce-

Remembering Mac Miller, a rapper who was still evolving

From wire reports

Mac Miller was undeniably a child of the internet.

As a teenager in the early 2000s, he went online to study the hip-hop stars working hundreds or thousands of miles from his home in Pittsburgh. Later, after he started rapping himself, he used YouTube and social media to build a following with little institutional support — a following robust enough that his debut album, 2011's "Blue Slide Park," became the first independently released project to top the Billboard 200 in more than 15 years.

Yet Miller, who died Sept. 7 at age 26 of an apparent drug overdose, also managed during his too-short career to do what the internet makes difficult: He evolved. His album "Swimming," which came out just weeks before his death, showcased an artist still finding himself.

While Miller didn't have a hit on Top 40 radio, he had a strong

following on streaming networks and even had an album debut at No. 1 on the top 200 albums chart. He often alluded to his battles with addiction over the years and



Miller

had collaborations with Kendrick Lamar, Lil Wayne and Ty Dolla Sign. Variety calling "Swimming" "a simple, stately, poetic autobiography." Rolling Stone called it "silky, deep wine redolent of the 1st, alternative soul screaming."

The album included the song "Come Back to Earth," with Miller trying to chart his way through tough times: "In my own way, I feel like living some alternate reality. And I was drowning, but now I'm swimming through stressful waters to relief."

He was due to start a tour at the end of next month.

'Jesus Christ Superstar' Emmy creates 3 more EGOT winners

BY MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

NBC's live version of "Jesus Christ Superstar" won an Emmy Award on Sunday and that made three men extra happy — it meant star John Legend, composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyricist Tim Rice joined the elite squad of EGOT winners.

The musical's win for best live variety special united Legend, Lloyd Webber and Rice with Emmys to go along with their Grammys, Oscars and Tonys — the four biggest prizes in show business.

Legend, who played Jesus in the concert version of "Jesus Christ Superstar" but won his Emmy as a co-producer of the show, is also up for an acting Emmy on Sept. 17.

The special trio of Legend, Lloyd Webber and Rice — officially the 13th, 14th and 15th

members of the EGOT club — join an elite group of winners that includes Robert Lopez, Audrey Hepburn, Mel Brooks, Rita Moreno, Mike Nichols and Whoopi Goldberg.

In other Emmy Awards news, Tiffany Haddish led an African-American sweep for TV series guest actors, a landmark moment in the entertainment industry's effort to foster diversity.

Haddish was honored for hosting "Saturday Night Live," while Karl Williams won the guest comedy actor award for "Atlanta."

Ron Cephas Jones of "This Is Us" and Samira Wiley of "The Handmaid's Tale" accepted guest acting honors in the drama series categories.

Shauna Duggins became the first woman to win an Emmy for stunt coordination, received money or variety series for "GLOW," about women's wrestling in the 1980s.

celebrity-filled telethon, on Sept. 7, was its most successful yet. The organization said Sunday that the fundraiser received more than \$123 million in pledges from the U.S. and Canada.

■ **"Pretty Little Liars"** star Daniel Radcliffe and longtime biographer Janet Paraghor married Sept. 8 in Hawaii, where Paraghor was born.

■ **Dolly**, the comic sidekick to leading men on the sitcoms "I Dream of Jeannie" and "The Bob Newhart Show," died Sept. 4 of natural causes, a family spokesman said Saturday.

■ **Don McGuire**, the last surviving member of The Hilltoppers, died Sept. 7 in Kentucky. He was 86. The Hilltoppers rose to fame in the 1950s with pop hits including "P.S. I Love You" and "Trying."

'The Nun' scares up \$53.5M at box office for Warner Bros.

From wire services

The horror movie "The Nun" has topped the domestic box office in its first weekend, scoring a best for the "Conjuring" franchise and another win for Warner Bros.

Studio estimates on Sunday say the Demian Bichir and Taissa Farmiga-led film brought in \$53.5 million from 3,876 North American theaters. Internationally, it banked \$77.5 million for a massive \$131 million global debut. The movie, a spinoff of a character seen in "The Conjuring 2," cost \$22 million to produce.

This marks the fifth consecutive weekend that a Warner Bros. movie has held first place domestically, following in the successful footsteps of "Crazy Rich Asians" and "The Meg."

SHIFTING GEARS



Photos courtesy of Hyundai

Worth a look | 2019 Hyundai Santa Fe is a spacious crossover with plenty of cargo space

By LARRY PRINTZ
Tribune News Service

It seems unfair, but it's true: Weekends fly, and weekdays walk. For the most part, life is a day-to-day drill of monotony punctuated by a few moments of pleasure. This explains why comfort and convenience, not high horsepower thrills, is what most motorists prefer — especially those with families.

With that in mind, if you're contemplating a new family vehicle, consider the new 2019 Hyundai Santa Fe, a redesigned two-row crossover formerly known as the Santa Fe Sport. (The former three-row Santa Fe is renamed the Santa Fe XL for 2019.)

Offered in ascending SE, SEL, SEL Plus, Limited and Ultimate trim levels, each Santa Fe has an increasing number of standard convenience features and few options.

The new model's styling trades the previous version's soft shapes for a more masculine appearance, more reminiscent of an SUV. Its face is particularly distinctive, with an aggressively textured trapezoid-shaped grille flanked by stacked headlamp clusters and capped by slim, horizontal daytime running lights and a chrome bar that runs the width of the front that's stylishly assertive.

The Santa Fe overall remains much like last year's Santa Fe Sport. All passengers enjoy chair high seats and good headroom, although the Santa Fe's roofline slopes down noticeably to meet the top of the windshield, lending the front row a more claustrophobic feel for taller passengers.

Cargo room is generous, and there's a large under-floor storage space with a removable Styrofoam divider. Opening the automatic rear tailgate is as easy as standing near it with the key fob. No swinging your foot under the bumper, as in competing models. Thoughtfully, you can adjust the speed with which the tailgate opens and how high it goes.

Ambience depends on trim level. Less expensive models feature attractively patterned cloth seats, while more expensive

models feature leather trim and a more expressive headliner. The instrument panel features soft touch surfaces and stitched accents, although the door panels use hard, cheap plastics that look appropriate on cheaper models and out of place on pricier ones.

The Santa Fe comes standard with front-wheel drive and a 185-horsepower 2.4-liter double overhead-cam four-cylinder engine mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission with manual shift mode. A 235-horsepower turbocharged 2.0-liter DOHC four-cylinder is optional on Limited or Ultimate models. All-wheel drive is optional. SE and SEL models wear 17-inch rubber, while SEL Plus, Limited and Ultimate trims get 18-inch or optional 19-inch footwear.

Most drivers will likely choose the 2.4-liter engine, which has adequate power if you live in a place where the only hills are landfills. Once facing an incline, this engine gets easily winded, forcing drivers to floor the throttle, which generates noise but not thrust.

This makes the optional 2.0-liter four the ideal choice, providing enough power in any situation, especially when the vehicle is loaded with passengers and gear. Pop the drive mode selector into Sport mode and the Santa Fe becomes more responsive with either engine, although it has no effect on suspension. Better yet, popping the transmission into manual mode shows how expertly Hyundai engineered its gearbox.

When climbing hills, the transmission holds its gear without automatically upshifting for fuel economy, unlike many

competitors' models. That said, when teamed with the 2.4-liter engine, transmission behavior isn't as refined.

Nevertheless, the cabin is astonishingly quiet with either engine, although the base engine does emit a continual hum, due to the need for the engine to keep the revs up.

Handling is compliant and agile, although it's not sporty. Only the worst off-road bumps break through this car's comfort barrier. Nevertheless, you'll find Santa Fe SEL with its smaller engine and wheels favor comfort, and do not feel as refined, as sharp or as firm riding as the Ultimate, due mainly to better tires and transmission behavior. When cornering, body lean is evident, but minimal, and the Santa Fe's Lane Keeping Assist works to keep you in your lane. Unlike similar systems, it has a natural feel that doesn't feel intrusive or forced. Once accustomed to it, most drivers will appreciate its assistance.

Even though few owners will ever do it, the Santa Fe is fairly good once the sidewalk ends, thanks to its torque-vectoring all-wheel-drive system, which brakes the inside wheels in a corner to enhance handling. It makes sliding around in the wild fun.

Given what most of us face on a daily basis, the Santa Fe proves to be a spacious crossover with an amazing amount of cargo space. It's an able assistant who is seen, not heard; a comforting, capable, compelling presence in a monotonous world.

Just be sure to spring for the more powerful engine. After all, don't you deserve more excitement in your life?

2019 Hyundai Santa Fe



Base price: \$25,500-\$38,800
Engine: Turbocharged 2.0-liter DOHC four-cylinder
Power/torque: 235 horsepower/260 foot-pounds
EPA fuel economy rating: 19-22 mpg city/21-25 highway
Wheelbase: 108.9 inches
Cargo capacity: 35.9-71.3 cubic feet

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OPINION

Enough politics, just let us buy stuff

By MEGAN MCARDLE

The Washington Post

Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything. As an exhortation, it's banal, the sort of thing a kindly granddad imparts toward the end of a Hallmark Channel movie. As ad copy for Nike, superimposed on a photo of former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick's face, it's apparently more electrified.

On Wednesday, Nike unveiled the advertising campaign featuring Kaepernick, who in 2016 catalyzed some National Football League players' refusal to stand for the national anthem as a protest of police brutality toward Americans of color. Social media political performance artists leaped into action. Nike shoes were burned. Swoshes were snipped from socks. America's tweeter in chief predicted doom for the brand.

It seemed as if we were in for yet another round of national identity wars. But that's not quite what it's working out.

Shortly after Nike's announcement, the consumer research firm Morning Consult released a survey showing that Nike had indeed, as President Donald Trump predicted, taken a reputation hit from its overtly political campaign. Interviews with 8,000 Americans showed a nearly 50 percent decline in Nike's favorability after announcing the Kaepernick ad campaign. Consumer interest in buying Nike products dropped by 10 percentage points.

Which you might expect. A polarizing political endorsement is going to cost a company with customers on the other side of the issue, though it may still pay off in terms of greater loyalty from people who agree. But surprisingly, the endorsement wasn't really all that polarizing. Yes, the percentage of Republicans saying they were likely to buy Nike shoes fell from 51 percent to 28 percent, but support also dropped among Democrats, their only by 5 percentage points. Blacks and young people, two demographic groups that the

For someone trying to convince the world of the righteousness of a cause, linking it to an ad campaign doesn't help.

Nike campaign presumably was intended to woo, also seem to have been turned off. The number of blacks interested in buying Nike dropped from 64 percent to 61 percent, and 18- to 21-year-olds reported a decline of nearly 20 percentage points.

The groups no doubt have different reasons for disliking the campaign. Conservatives resent the politicization of their consumer purchases, while the left objects to the consumerization of their politics. Nonetheless, if the Morning Consult findings hold up, the new ad campaign appears to be a case-study proposition for Nike.

One sure sign of the success of the U.S. population is not a comprehensive picture of every American's opinion, but how nice it would be if the poll is right. Maybe companies would think twice before injecting politics even into people's shopping decisions.

Companies have historically avoided entering the political fray for fear of just what this survey shows: You often alienate far more customers than you gain. And that's especially true for big companies. A brand with a left- or right-wing identity can thrive in a smaller niche where most of their customers lean in one direction. But larger-scale operations need to be able to sell into the whole market, so they've generally eschewed any moves that would alienate sizable portions of their potential customer base.

But as America has divided into distinct camps — geographic, demographic, political — more companies have started chasing explicitly political identities. Starbucks' leftward lean has famously roused conser-

vative ire, but many on the left still haven't forgiven Chick-fil-A owner Dan Cathy's remarks opposing same-sex marriage a few years ago. The result is a world in which every decision, even what kind of fast food to buy, has taken on a political aspect.

That's not healthy for America, which needs more points that people have in common, not more ways to divide into separate teams. Politics and fighting for causes are vital pursuits, of course. I admire Kaepernick for sticking to his principles. But if we Americans are to stay in top fighting form, we also need spaces where we can rest and recharge without agonizing over which brand of chewing gum is the most politically appealing.

And just as 24/7 political arguments sap the strength needed for the important fights, commercializing politics weakens messages that need to be heard. Everyone understands that advertising copy has a bedrock cynicism: The advertiser's sincerest belief is in selling something, not in the truth or importance of its message. For someone trying to convince the world of the righteousness of a cause, linking it to an ad campaign doesn't help.

Yet how many of us would turn down that advertising contract if it were offered? How many brands will resist the drive to color their products red or blue if customers reward them for it? That's why the Morning Consult survey is such an encouraging sign.

Maybe Americans aren't divided on this one. Maybe they agree on what they want: a marketplace that's above politics, and a politics that's above crass market imperatives. And maybe companies will take the cue and focus instead on making good products, leaving the politics to politicians and voters.

Megan McArdle, a Washington Post opinions columnist, is a former columnist for Bloomberg View and author of "The Way We Think: Why Failing Well Is the Key to Success."

In a US trade war with China, everyone loses

By DANIEL GRISWOLD

Special to the Los Angeles Times

The U.S.-China trade war escalated again in late August, with each side imposing duties on an additional \$16 billion of imports from the other. That brings the total value of exports exposed to duties to more than \$50 billion each way, with billions more in the crosshairs. Despite assurances from President Donald Trump, this may be a long and costly conflict with economic casualties mounting on both sides of the Pacific.

Trump's trade team argues that the duties are needed to force China to improve its protection of intellectual property and reform its trade policies more generally. So far, however, the brinkmanship has yielded nothing positive. No formal talks are scheduled to resolve differences. If the stalemate continues, the Trump administration has plans to slap duties on another \$200 billion in imports.

In pressing the conflict, Trump makes the simple calculation that the United States exports more to China than it buys a lot more goods from China (\$505 billion in 2017) than they buy from us (\$130 billion). That should mean that they will run out of U.S. products to target long before we do. But this ignores the fact that our commercial ties with China are about more than exporting goods to China.

Beyond tariffs, China could also retali-

ate by turning the screws on U.S. service exports. The people of China buy close to \$60 billion a year in services from suppliers in the United States, more than half of that spent on freight and passenger transportation and on business and personal travel. The Chinese government is already discouraging Chinese citizens from visiting the United States, which will impose a significant hit on the U.S. hospitality industry.

In addition to cross-border trade, China is a huge market for U.S. direct investment and sales through affiliates. According to the most recent figures from the Department of Commerce, in 2015 U.S. multinationals operating in China sold \$294 billion in U.S.-branded goods and \$59 billion in services. In contrast, Chinese-owned affiliates in the United States sold only \$22 billion that year to U.S. customers.

If we add up what Americans sell to the people of China each year through exports of goods and services and sales through affiliates, the total is more than \$500 billion. That is almost exactly the same grand total that Americans spend on goods and services imported from China, supplied by its affiliates in the United States.

Clearly, both sides have a lot — almost exactly the same amount — to lose from commercial warfare.

A recent World Bank study confirms that neither side will win a protracted trade war at the current level of tariff retaliation, the World Bank estimates that

each country will suffer a drop in annual exports of about \$40 billion. If retaliation escalates to include all two-way trade in goods and services, Chinese exports to the United States would fall by \$190 billion and U.S. exports to China by \$166 billion.

If the trade war results in a half-percent age point drop in investment as a share of gross domestic product, as the World Bank quite reasonably assumes it could, the damage would be multiplied. Such a worst-case scenario would result in a \$426 billion loss to the Chinese economy and a \$313 billion loss to the U.S. economy. The biggest losers in the United States will be agriculture, chemicals and transport equipment. It will be cold comfort to Americans who lose their jobs and their businesses that our loss is somewhat smaller than what our government inflicts on China.

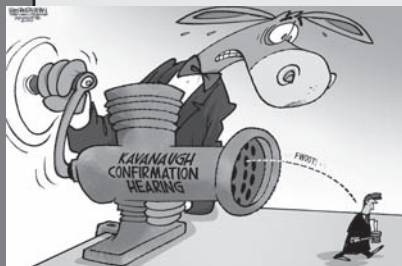
Trump is dead wrong to believe that we can easily win a trade war with China or any of our major trading partners. The record on his kind of trade confrontation is not encouraging. Dating back to the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930, American politicians have tended to underestimate or ignore the readiness of foreigners to retaliate and their reluctance to surrender.

We seem to be condemned to learning the lesson all over again that trade wars are for losers.

Daniel Griswold is a senior research fellow and co-director of the Trade and Immigration Project at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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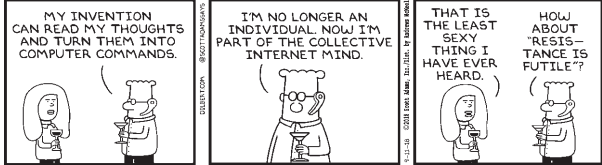


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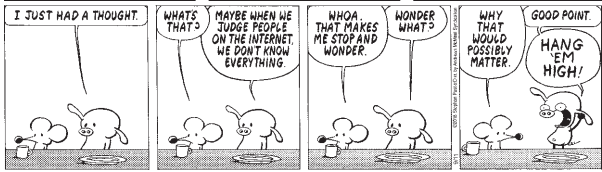
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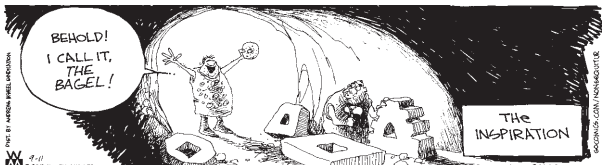
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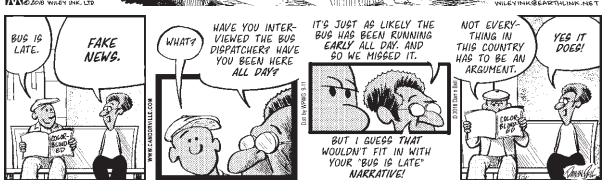
Pearls Before Swine



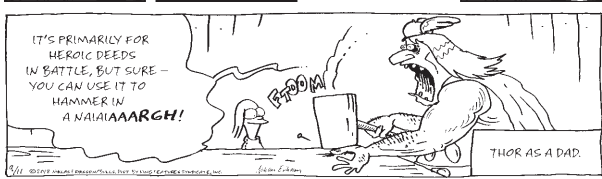
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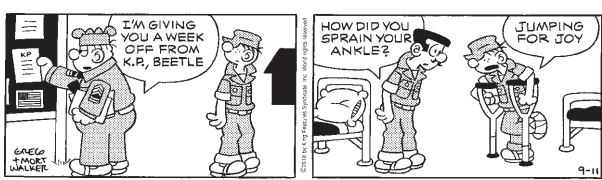
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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ACROSS

- 1 Prepare to travel
- 5 Em halves
- 8 Lose color
- 12 Algerian port
- 13 601, to Nero
- 14 Tale teller
- 15 Cleopatra's river
- 16 Chickpea
- 18 Pygmalion's statue
- 20 Poker payments
- 21 Uno + uno
- 22 Pants part
- 23 Cook in the oven
- 26 Graceful antelope
- 30 Half of bi-
- 31 Allen or Daly
- 32 Longing
- 33 Parking places
- 36 Velocity
- 38 Scepter
- 39 Bill's partner
- 40 Getting 100 on
- 43 Sealing rings
- 47 Play-ending arcade message
- 49 Power co. supply
- 50 PC programs
- 51 Hostel
- 52 — avis
- 53 Colonial seamstress

DOWN

- 1 Vintage video game
- 2 Operatic solo
- 3 Use a phone
- 4 Works with dough
- 5 Rims
- 6 March Madness gp.
- 7 Polite address
- 8 Projecting rim
- 9 "— She Sweet"
- 10 Stupor
- 11 Love god
- 17 Folk singer Joan
- 19 Preschooler
- 22 Felon's flight
- 23 Bad hairpiece
- 24 Out — limb
- 25 Football filler
- 26 USO audience
- 27 Caustic cleaner
- 28 Author Harper
- 29 Finale
- 31 Actor Danson
- 34 "Gunsmoke" star
- 35 Type of dancer
- 36 "Mayday!"
- 37 Fireplace tools
- 39 Chili con —
- 40 Petri dish gel
- 41 Mafia boss
- 42 Rapsallions
- 43 Bloke
- 44 Israeli airline
- 45 Garr of "Tootsie"
- 46 "Shool"
- 48 By way of

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	C	E	S		S	H	Y		E	C	H	O	
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9-11

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MLGG HD "OHV L GL JFNVW."

Yesterday's Cryptquip: CALIFORNIA CITY which is FULL OF PEOPLE who PLAY A CERTAIN MOUTH INSTRUMENT: SANTA HARMONICA.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: D equals T


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College football

AP Top 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Sept. 8, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Alabama (54)	2-0	1517	1
2. Clemson (6)	2-0	1430	2
3. Georgia	2-0	1407	3
4. Ohio St.	2-0	1288	4
5. Oklahoma State	2-0	1263	6
6. Wisconsin (1)	2-0	1227	5
7. Auburn	2-0	1224	7
8. Notre Dame	2-0	1022	8
9. Stanford	2-0	992	10
10. Washington	1-1	884	9
11. Penn St.	1-1	836	13
12. LSU	2-0	830	11
13. Virginia Tech	2-0	793	14
14. West Virginia	2-0	793	14
15. TCU	2-0	678	16
16. Mississippi St.	2-0	654	18
17. Boise St.	2-0	500	20
18. UCF	2-0	494	19
19. Michigan	2-0	385	21
20. Oregon	2-0	301	23
21. Miami	1-1	299	22
22. Southern Cal	1-1	250	17
23. Arizona St.	2-0	139	NR
24. North Carolina	1-1	104	15
25. Oregon State	2-0	104	15

Others receiving votes: Iowa 23, Texas A&M 30, Boston College 32, Maryland 30, Colorado 25, Utah 23, Kentucky 15, Duke 10, NC State 9, Mississippi St. 8, South Carolina 7, Washington St. 6, South Carolina 2, Florida State 1.

Coaches Top 25

The Amway Top 25 football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Sept. 8, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Alabama (59)	2-0	1571	1
2. Clemson (3)	2-0	1481	2
3. Michigan	2-0	1432	3
4. Ohio State (1)	2-0	1391	4
5. Oklahoma	2-0	1319	5
6. Wisconsin	2-0	1262	6
7. Auburn	2-0	1221	7
8. Notre Dame	2-0	1022	8
9. Stanford	2-0	1010	9
10. Penn State	2-0	930	10
11. Virginia Tech	1-1	852	11
12. LSU	2-0	850	15
14. TCU	2-0	743	16
15. West Virginia	2-0	727	17
16. Mississippi State	2-0	654	18
17. Boise State	2-0	507	19
18. UCF	2-0	438	20
19. Oklahoma State	2-0	385	21
20. Miami	1-1	296	21
21. Southern Cal	1-1	295	12
22. Michigan State	2-0	277	22
23. Oregon	2-0	255	NR
24. Michigan State	2-0	152	13
25. Arizona State	2-0	92	NR

Others receiving votes: Texas A&M 87, Utah 86, Houston 46, South Carolina 43, Boston College 37, Kentucky 34, Iowa 30, Florida State 17, NC State 16, Iowa 15, Duke 13, Appalachian State 12, Cincinnati 11, Hawaii 10, Maryland 9, Missouri 8, Memphis 3, Vanderbilt 3, Arkansas State 1, Texas 1.

Top 25 schedule

- No. 1 Alabama at Mississippi
- No. 2 Clemson vs. Georgia Southern
- No. 3 Georgia vs. Middle Tennessee
- No. 4 Ohio State vs. No. 15 Cal at Arlington, Texas
- No. 5 Oklahoma at Iowa State
- No. 6 Wisconsin vs. BYU
- No. 7 Auburn vs. No. 12 LSU
- No. 8 Notre Dame vs. Vanderbilt
- No. 9 Stanford vs. UC Davis
- No. 10 Washington at Utah
- No. 11 Penn State vs. Kent State
- No. 13 Virginia Tech vs. East Carolina
- No. 14 West Virginia at Toledo
- No. 15 Mississippi State vs. Louisiana-Lafayette
- No. 17 Boise State at No. 24 Oklahoma State
- No. 18 UCF at North Carolina
- No. 19 Oklahoma at Miami
- No. 20 Oregon vs. San Jose State
- No. 21 Michigan at Toledo
- No. 22 Southern Cal at Texas
- No. 23 Arizona State at San Diego State

Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
New York	17	7	7	58	40	29
Atlanta United FC	16	5	6	54	56	33
New York City FC	14	8	6	49	38	30
Columbus	12	7	7	43	35	34
Philadelphia	12	11	4	40	39	41
D.C. United	11	14	4	36	37	45
New England	8	10	9	33	40	42
Orlando City	10	9	7	31	43	44
Toronto FC	7	14	6	27	45	52
Orlando City	7	17	3	24	40	52
San Jose	6	15	5	23	45	52

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
FC Dallas	14	6	7	49	47	37
Sporting KC	14	7	6	49	49	33
Los Angeles FC	13	7	7	46	54	42
Real Salt Lake	13	10	5	44	48	46
Portland	12	7	8	44	40	36
Seattle	12	9	5	41	35	27
Vancouver	11	9	7	40	45	52
LA Galaxy	10	10	8	38	51	54
Minnesota United	9	15	2	29	38	52
Houston	7	13	7	28	43	42
Colorado	6	15	6	24	31	50
San Jose	4	15	8	20	41	52

Note: Three points for victory, one for a draw.

Note: Three points for victory, one point for a draw.

Wednesday's game

New England 1, New York City FC 1, tie.

Saturday's games

D.C. United 1, New York City FC 1, tie.

Sporting Kansas City 2, Orlando City 2, Portland 2, Colorado 0.

Wednesday, September 12

Minnesota United at D.C. United

Saturday, September 15

Atlanta United FC at Colorado

LA Galaxy at Toronto FC

Montreal at Philadelphia

Columbus at FC Dallas

Portland at Vancouver

Minnesota United at Real Salt Lake

Seattle at Houston

New England at Los Angeles FC

Sporting Kansas City at San Jose

New York at D.C. United

Orlando City at Chicago

WNFL

W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-North Carolina	6	4	57	53	17
x-Portland	12	6	6	42	40
x-New England	12	6	6	42	40
x-Chicago	9	5	10	37	38
Utah	9	10	8	35	23
San Diego	9	10	8	35	23
Orlando	8	10	6	30	37
Washington	8	10	6	30	37
San Jose	1	17	6	9	21
Seattle	1	17	6	9	21

Note: Three points for victory, one point for a tie.

Thursday's game

Chicago 5, Seattle 0

Friday's game

Portland 3, Seattle 1

Saturday's games

San Jose 1, Orlando 0

Utah 2, Chicago 0

North Carolina 5, Houston 0

PLAYOFFS

Semifinals

Saturday, Sept. 15: Seattle at Portland

Sunday, Sept. 16: Chicago at North Carolina

Championship

Saturday, Sept. 22: TBD

Pro baseball

MLB calendar

Oct. 2 - Wild-card games.

Oct. 3 - Division Series start.

Oct. 4 - World Series starts.

Oct. 5 - World Series starts.

Oct. 6 - World Series starts.

Oct. 7 - World Series starts.

Oct. 8 - World Series starts.

Oct. 9 - World Series starts.

Oct. 10 - World Series starts.

Oct. 11 - World Series starts.

Oct. 12 - World Series starts.

Oct. 13 - World Series starts.

Golf

European Masters

Sunday

At Crans-sur-Sierre GC

Crans Montanna, Switzerland

Purse: \$2.5 million

Yardage: 6,548; Par 70

Final

Fitzpatrick won on first playoff hole

M. Fitzpatrick, England 69-64-63-67-263

Lucas Bjerregaard, Denmark 65-67-65-263

Michele Lorenzini, France 66-64-67-265

Nacho Elvira, Spain 66-67-66-265

Daniel Brooks, England 69-64-69-269

Samuel Kerr, England 69-64-69-269

Wu Aishun, China 70-65-70-270

Darren Fichardt, S. Africa 68-71-68-271

P. Khongwale, Thailand 67-68-68-271

Charl Schwartzel, S. Africa 67-69-68-271

Christie Stewart, from Toledo, U.S. 69-65-71-271

Jeonhyun Wang, S. Korea 71-68-70-274

Soren Kjeldsen, Denmark 69-70-69-273

Samuel Kerr, England 69-66-70-273

Gavin Green, Malaysia 69-63-72-273

Samuel Kerr, England 69-63-72-273

Callum Shinkwin, England 69-69-70-274

Fabrizio Zanotti, Paraguay 70-69-69-274

Richard McEvoy, Ireland 72-67-69-274

Pablo Larrazabal, Spain 67-72-68-274

Nino Bertasio, Italy 70-67-69-274

Haydn Porteous, S. Africa 69-66-74-274

Also

Chase Kokopa, U.S. 71-65-69-277

Dale Lippsey, United States 68-70-66-273

K. Aghababian, Thailand 71-67-70-279

Deals

Sunday's transactions

BASEBALL

American League

DETROIT TIGERS - Recalled C Jarrod Saltalamacchia, RHP Zach Rife and OF

Christie Stewart from Toledo, U.S.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS - Recalled RHP Ryan Peltz and OF Matt Chapman from Nashville (PCL).

TORONTO BLUE JAYS - Activated INF Yanis Solarte from the 10-day DL.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES - Recalled RHP Chad Sobotka from Gwinnett (IL).

CHICAGO CUBS - Recalled RHP Alec Mills from Iowa (PCL).

MILWAUKEE BREWERS - Recalled RHP Fredy Peralta and Taylor Williams from Colorado Springs (PCL).

NEW YORK YANKEES - Recalled RHP Anthony Swarzak from the 10-day DL.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

DETROIT RED WINGS - Agreed to terms with RW Matt Hampel on a two-year contract.

U.S. OPEN - Fined Serena Williams \$17,000 for three code violations during Saturday's women's singles final.

Pro basketball

WNBA playoffs

First round

Tuesday, Aug. 11

Phoenix 101, Dallas 83

Los Angeles 75, Minnesota 68

Second round

Thursday, Aug. 23

Washington 96, Connecticut 86

Phoenix 96, Connecticut 86

Semifinals

Best-of-5

Seattle 3, Phoenix 2

Seattle 91, Phoenix 87, OT

Phoenix 86, Seattle 88

Phoenix 86, Seattle 84

Seattle 94, Phoenix 84

Washington 78, Atlanta 76

Atlanta 81, Washington 76

Washington 97, Atlanta 81

Finals

Best-of-5 (Necessary)

Seattle 2, Washington 0

Briefly

Allgaier captures Brickyard victory

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Justin Allgaier won the Xfinity Series race that kicked off a NASCAR doubleheader at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Allgaier earned his fifth victory of the season and first career win at Indianapolis in the 250-mile race. The 400-mile Brickyard 400 was to follow because both races were rained out over the weekend.

Allgaier won in a Chevrolet for JK Motorsports, the team owned by retired NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Tyler Reddick finished second, Ryan Blaney was third and Chase Elliott fourth. Blaney and Elliott both completed the Xfinity Series race then headed to their Cup cars for the second race.

Golden Knights acquire All-Star Pacioretty

LAS VEGAS — Max Pacioretty is heading from the Original Six to the Sin City.

The Vegas Golden Knights acquired the All-Star forward from the Montreal Canadiens Sunday night for Tomas Tatar, prospect Nick Suzuki and a 2019 second-round pick.

Vegas announced the deal, which sends the captain of one of hockey's oldest franchises to a club coming off a run to the Stanley Cup Finals in its inaugural season.

Pacioretty was named the Canadiens captain in 2015 and has played all 626 of his NHL games with Montreal. He recently denied reports that he had requested a trade. His name has been mentioned in trade speculation since last season's trade deadline.

The 29-year-old Pacioretty is entering the final season of a six-year deal that will pay him \$4.5 million.

Oklahoma RB Anderson out for season

NORMAN, Okla. — Oklahoma star running back Rodney Anderson is out for the season with a right knee injury.

The school made the announcement in a news release Sunday night. Anderson got up slowly after a 10-yard run on the final play of the first quarter Saturday against UCLA. The preseason All-Big 12 selection limped off the field on his own, and trainers tended to him before he headed to the locker room.

US OPEN

Djokovic ties idol Sampras with 14th major

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. Open final suddenly appeared to be slipping away from Novak Djokovic. He dropped three consecutive games. He was barking at himself, at his entourage, at a crowd vocally supporting his opponent, Juan Martin del Potro. He was, in short, out of sorts.

And then came Sunday's pivotal game, a 20-minute, 22-point epic. Three times, del Potro was a point from breaking and earning the right to serve to make it a set apiece. Three times, Djokovic steeled himself. Eventually, he seized that game — and del Potro's best chance to make a match of it.

A year after missing the U.S. Open because of an injured right elbow that would require surgery, Djokovic showed that he is unquestionably back at his best and back at the top of tennis. His returns and defense-to-offense skills are impeccable as ever. Djokovic collected his 14th Grand Slam title and second in a row by getting through every crucial moment for a 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3 victory over 2009 champion del Potro at Flushing Meadows.

"There was always part of me that imagined and believed and hoped that I can get back (to) the desired level of tennis very soon," said Djokovic, whose operation



JULIO CORTES/AP

Novak Djokovic celebrates after defeating Juan Martin del Potro in the men's final of the U.S. Open on Sunday in New York. Djokovic won 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3.

was in February. "But at the same time, life showed me that it takes time for good things, it takes time to really build them, for things to fall into place, so you can center yourself, balance yourself and thrive. The last two months have been terrific."

This was Djokovic's third championship in New York, along with those in 2011 and 2015. Add in the trophies he has earned at six Australian Opens, one French Open and four Wimbledon, most recently in July, and the 31-year-old Serb pulled even with Pete Sampras for the third-most majors among men, trailing only Roger Federer's 20 and Rafael Nadal's 17.

"He's my idol. Pete, I love you," Djokovic said.

Federer lost in the fourth round in New York, while Nadal retired from his semifinal against del Potro because of a bad right knee. That put the 29-year-old Argentine back in a Grand Slam final for the first time since his breakthrough nine years ago, a comeback for a guy who had four wrist

operations in the interim.

"I believe he'll be here again with the champion's trophy. I really do," said Djokovic, who gave his pal a hug at the net, and then went over to console del Potro as he wiped away tears at his sideline seat.

Del Potro spoke this week about the low point, in 2015, when he considered quitting the sport. But supported by a dozen or so friends from back home, whose "Ole!" choruses rang around the arena, he climbed up the rankings to a career-high No. 3 by thundering his 100 mph forehands and 135 mph serves.

Those produce free points against so many foes. Not against Djokovic, who always seemed to have all the answers — and who said he convinced himself that all of those "Oles" were actually people calling out his own nickname, "Nole."

Djokovic was better than del Potro on their many lengthy exchanges, using his trademark body-twisting, limb-splaying court coverage to get to nearly

every ball, sneakers squeaking around the blue court in Arthur Ashe Stadium, where the roof was closed because of rain.

"I was playing almost at the limit, all the time, looking for winners with my forehands, backhands, and I couldn't make it," del Potro said, "because Novak [was] there every time."

Never was that more apparent than the game that stood out on this evening, with Djokovic serving while down 4-3 in the second set. They went back and forth, through eight deuces and all those break opportunities for del Potro, until he slapped one forehand into the net, and another sailed wide.

Those were high-risk shots, but, as del Potro put it: "It's the only way to beat these kind of players."

Djokovic's coach, Marian Vajda, called that moment the match's "turning point, obviously."

When it ended, with Djokovic holding to 4-all, spectators began leaving their seats, perhaps thinking it was time for a change-over, even though it wasn't. That

prompted to chair umpire Alison Hughes to chastise them.

It was a brief request, though, unlike her many other pleas for quiet, mainly as fans were shouting and chanting and clapping in support of del Potro. It all bothered Djokovic, who started yelling and gesturing toward the seats. At one moment, he pressed his right index finger to his lips, as if to say, "Shhhhhhh!" Later, after winning a point, Djokovic put that finger to his ear, as if to say, "Who are you cheering for now?"

The tiebreaker was resolved thanks to more del Potro misuses on his forehead side, as he looked more and more fatigued. He made one last stand by breaking and holding for 3-all. But that was that.

When it ended, thanks to a three-game closing run by Djokovic, he flung his racket away and landed on his back, arms and legs spread wide.

He had hit his peak, Vajda said, at "just at the right time."

Djokovic had never gone through an extended absence until 2017, when he sat out the second half of the season because of elbow pain that had plagued him for more than a year. He tried to return at the start of this season, but couldn't, and opted for surgery.

It took him some time to find the right form, as evidenced by his quarterfinal loss at the French Open to a guy who was ranked 72nd and had never won a Grand Slam match until that tournament.

"I was very, very disappointed with my performance that day," Djokovic recalled Sunday, explaining that he went hiking in the mountains in France to clear his head after that setback.

Djokovic then got right back to work, and announced that he was, once more, himself by winning Wimbledon.

Now he's backed that up at the U.S. Open, the fourth time in his career he won multiple majors in a season.

"Difficult times, but you learn through adversity," Djokovic said. "I try to take the best out of myself in those moments."



JASON DECROW/AP

Juan Martin del Potro reacts during his match against Novak Djokovic in Sunday's final of the U.S. Open in New York.



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MLB



MICHAEL DWYER/AP

The Red Sox's Mitch Moreland, bottom, celebrates his game-winning RBI single with Xander Bogaerts during the ninth inning Sunday's game against the Houston Astros in Boston.

Moreland walks off Red Sox

By KEN POWTAK
Associated Press

BOSTON — Mitch Moreland put some recent struggles behind him with a clutch hit in the ninth inning. Helped the major league-leading Boston Red Sox do the same with their weekend woes, too.

Moreland singled in the winning run with two outs in the ninth and the Red Sox beat the Houston Astros 6-5 on Sunday night to avoid a three-game sweep in a matchup of AL division leaders.

"Yeah, I'll take those every time if I could," he said, breaking into a grin. "It was at the right time to do it, I guess."

Coming into the game in a 2-for-26 slump, the first baseman had a pinch-hit single in the eighth before his walkoff blop.

"Yeah, he gets jammed and he gets a single," Red Sox manager Alex Cora said, adding "we need this guy to get going offensively. We know how good he is."

With runners on first and second, Moreland sent his opposite-single to left against Hector Rondon (2-3), and pinch-runner Tzu-Wei Lin raced home easily. Left fielder Marwin Gonzalez tried to barehand the ball for a quick throw but lost his grip and let it dribble toward the Green Monster.

J.D. Martinez hit his 40th homer and drove in four for Boston, which snapped Houston's seven-game winning streak even after the Astros rallied with a four-run sixth inning to tie the game at 5.

The East-leading Red Sox sliced their magic number to 11 for their third straight division title. Boston leads the second-place Yankees by 8½ games after they lost at Seattle.

Jose Altuve and Gonzalez each hit a solo homer for the West-leading Astros, who saw their lead over Oakland cut to 2½ games. The Athletics beat Texas earlier in the day.

"This was a really good game, really good series," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "We win this series, which is one of the goals coming into this."

Craig Kimbrel (5-1) pitched a perfect ninth to preserve a tie.

Cards rally past Tigers, avoid sweep

St. Louis follows interruption by squirrel with five-run outburst

By DAVE HOGG
Associated Press

DETROIT — The St. Louis Cardinals needed something to get them going on Sunday against the Detroit Tigers.

Out of nowhere — again — a squirrel appeared.

In an episode sure to revive St. Louis fans' memories of the 2011 Rally Squirrel, this game at Comerica Park was scoreless going into the seventh inning. That's when a squirrel took up residence between second and third base.

There was a delay and, with some prompting from the Tigers infield, the critter moved into foul territory and eventually made its escape in right field.

The Cardinals wound up scoring five times in the inning and avoided a series sweep with a 5-2 victory.

"I don't think you can discount that factor," manager Mike Shildt said. "The squirrel shows up and we score five runs. We only had six in the whole series before that."

The Cardinals lost the first two games of the series in walk-off fashion and didn't have a baserunner until the sixth against Michael Fulmer.

St. Louis, which has a one-game lead for the second NL wild card spot, won for the third time in eight games.

"You never want to get swept by anybody," said Kolten Wong, who drove in the Cardinals' first run. "We knew they could be dangerous, because they have nothing to lose, and they gave us a battle. Luckily, we were able to get one."

Detroit's four-game winning streak was snapped.

John Gant (7-5) allowed two runs on five hits and a walk in 6½ innings. He struck out six.

"I knew I really needed to bear down, because we needed this game," Gant said. "I had to go out there and give my best effort."

Carlos Martinez pitched the ninth for his second save. After the game, Shildt said Martinez will replace Bud Norris as the team's closer.

Fulmer (3-11) was perfect through five innings but only got four more outs. He allowed five runs on five hits and three walks in 6½ innings, striking out five.

"He was cruising, and then everything fell apart behind him," Tigers manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We didn't make a couple plays, we dropped a ball and they



PHOTOS BY PAUL SANCYA/AP

St. Louis pitcher John Gant struck out six against two runs on five hits and a walk over 6½ innings against the Tigers on Sunday in Detroit. The Cardinals won 5-2.

found a bunch of holes. I don't think they hit a ball hard off him."

Fulmer fell to 0-6 in his last nine starts, with the Tigers losing all nine.

"My job is to help this team win games, and I'm obviously not doing that," he said. "But I can feel the progress every time. This is the best I've felt in two years."

In the seventh, Marcell Ozuna and De-Jong both hit infield singles with one out, and Wong followed with an RBI single to left. Yairo Munoz followed with a flyball down the right-field line that Niko Goodrum dropped, allowing the second run to score.

Greg Garcia was intentionally walked, loading the bases, and Carson Kelly hit the third infield single of the inning to make it 3-0. Victor Alcantara replaced Fulmer and allowed a sacrifice fly to Matt Carpenter before Jose Martinez's RBI single gave the Cardinals a five-run lead.

"Fulmer was really tough, but we found some little holes," Kelly said. "You never know when that squirrel will show up, but we needed it there."

The Tigers got their two runs in the bottom of the seventh, thanks to doubles from Nicholas Castellanos, James McCann and Ronny Rodriguez.

Carpenter and Shildt were both ejected after Carpenter was called out on strikes to end the ninth.

Did you know

During Game 4 of the 2011 NL Division Series, a squirrel cut across the diamond at Busch Stadium and past home plate during a game against the Phillies. St. Louis went on to win the playoff series, and later, the championship — their World Series rings even depicted a squirrel.



A squirrel ran onto the field in the seventh inning on Sunday in Detroit. The game was delayed due to the animal, and the Cardinals scored five runs after play resumed.

SOURCE: Associated Press

Roundup

Red-hot Athletics continue domination of Rangers

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Stephen Piscotty homered and the A's rallied from an early three-run hole to beat Texas 7-2 to win its fourth straight and sixth in seven games.

Matt Olson had two hits including a double for the A's, who are 30 games over .500 (87-57) for the first time since closing out 2013 at 96-66. They've won nine of their last 10 against the Rangers.

Blue Jays 6, Indians 2: Right fielder Randal Grichuk was injured in a bizarre collision with a security guard's chair, and replacement Teoscar Hernandez hit a three-run homer to lead host Toronto.

Rays 8, Orioles 3: Brandon Lowe hit a

three-run homer in a five-run first inning and Tampa Bay tied a team record with its 11th consecutive home win.

Mets 6, Phillies 4: On a rainy afternoon, the fading Phillies stumbled again when Vince Velazquez wasted a two-run lead in loss to host New York.

Angels 1, White Sox 0: Andrew Heaney tossed three-hit ball over seven innings and struck out a career-high 12, lifting visiting Los Angeles to the three-game sweep.

Brewers 8, Giants 3: Jonathan Schoop hit a grand slam after Ryan Braun was hit by a pitch in a tense sixth inning, and host Milwaukee preserved its lead in the NL wild-card race.

Twins 3, Royals 1: Williams Astudillo

hit a two-out, two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift host Minnesota.

Dodgers 9, Rockies 6: Justin Turner hit a two-run homer and finished with four hits as visiting Los Angeles moved closer to the first-place Colorado in the NL West.

Braves 9, Diamondbacks 5: At Phoenix, Ender Inciarte hit a three-run homer during a six-run rally in the ninth as Atlanta increased its lead in the NL East to 4½.

Mariners 3, Yankees 2: Mitch Haniger scored the go-ahead run on a grounder in the eighth inning, then made a diving catch for the final out to give host Seattle the win.

Padres 7, Reds 6: Eric Hosmer led off the ninth inning with a home run as visiting San Diego picked up the win.

NFL

Hill helps Mahomes era get off to fast start

CARSON, Calif. — Tyreek Hill helped get the Patrick Mahomes era off to a blazing start for Kansas City.

The speedy receiver scored three touchdowns, including two in the first quarter, as the Chiefs opened the season with a 38-28 victory over the Los Angeles Chargers on Sunday.

"You know, he's a different animal. That's the cheat, that," Chiefs running back Kareem Hunt said. "The guy can take off at any time of the game, at any point in the game, and it's good like that to have a guy with speed like that on your team."

Chiefs 38, Chargers 28

Kansas City	14	3	14	7-38
L.A. Chargers	6	6	0	16-28

First Quarter

KC—Hill 91 punt return (Butker kick), 12:02.

LAC—FG Sturgis 45, 9:20.

KC—Hill 58 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 6:39.

LAC—FG Sturgis 39, 2:11.

Second Quarter

LAC—Ekelor 13 pass from Rivers (pass failed), 7:47.

KC—FG Butker 46, 7:00.

Third Quarter

KC—Thomas 1 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 9:25.

KC—Sherman 36 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 4:48.

Fourth Quarter

LAC—Allen 20 pass from Rivers (Gates pass from Rivers), 12:04.

KC—Hill 1 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 9:42.

LAC—Ty Williams 4 pass from Rivers (Gordon run), 5:01.

A—25:31.

	KC	LAC
First downs	19	33
Total Net Yards	362	541
Rushes-yards	27-106	22-123
Passing	256	418
Punt Returns	2-95	2-122
Kickoff Returns	2-33	2-36
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	15-27-0	24-31
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-0	1-6
Punts	5-51.2	3-48.0
Fumbles-Lost	6-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	6-60	7-45
Time of Possession	25:34	34:26

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Kansas City, Hunt 16-49, Ware 3-32, Mahomes 5-21, Hill 2-14, Dam, Williams 1-0, Los Angeles, Gordon 15-64, Ekelor 5-39, Benjamin 1-19, Watt 1-1.

Passing—Kansas City, Mahomes 15-27-0, Los Angeles, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Receiving—Kansas City, Hill 7-169, Watkins 3-21, Sherman 1-35, Conley 1-15, Ware 1-8, Kelce 1-6, Thomas 1-1, Los Angeles, Gordon 9-102, Allen 9-108, Ekelor 5-87, Williams 5-81, Green 2-21, Gates 2-16, Ty Williams 2-8, Benjamin 1-1.

Field goals—Los Angeles, Sturgis 48.

Missed field goals—Los Angeles, Sturgis 48.

Penalties—Los Angeles, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions—Los Angeles, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles—Los Angeles, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked—Los Angeles, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Time of Possession, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

First Downs, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Total Net Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Rushes-yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Passing, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punt Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Kickoff Returns, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Interceptions Ret., Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Comp-Att-Int, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Sacked-Yards Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Punts, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Fumbles-Lost, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

Penalties-Yards, Rivers 34-51-1, 42-4.

NFL

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Miami	1	0	0	1.000	27	20
New England	1	0	0	1.000	27	20
Buffalo	1	0	1	.500	3	47
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Jacksonville	1	0	0	1.000	20	15
Houston	0	1	0	.000	20	27
Tennessee	0	1	0	.000	27	20
Indianapolis	0	1	0	.000	20	34
Baltimore	1	0	0	1.000	47	3
Cincinnati	1	0	0	1.000	24	33
Cleveland	0	1	0	.000	21	21
Pittsburgh	0	1	1	.500	21	23
Kansas City	1	0	0	1.000	38	28
Denver	1	0	0	1.000	27	24
L.A. Chargers	0	0	0	.000	28	38
Oakland	0	0	0	.000	0	0

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	1	0	0	1.000	24	6
Philadelphia	1	0	0	1.000	18	12
N.Y. Giants	1	0	0	1.000	15	20
Dallas	0	1	0	.000	8	16
Tampa Bay	1	0	0	1.000	48	40
Carolina	1	0	0	1.000	16	8
New Orleans	1	0	0	1.000	48	48
Atlanta	0	0	0	.000	12	18
Green Bay	1	0	0	1.000	24	23
Minnesota	1	0	0	1.000	24	16
Chicago	0	1	0	.000	23	24
Arizona	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Detroit	0	0	0	.000	0	0
Seattle	0	0	0	.000	24	27
San Francisco	0	0	0	.000	16	24
San Diego	0	0	0	.000	24	24
L.A. Rams	0	0	0	.000	0	0

Thursday's game

Philadelphia 15, Atlanta 12	
Sunday's games	
Cincinnati 34, Indianapolis 23	
Jacksonville 20, N.Y. Giants 16	
New England 27, Houston 20	
Minnesota 24, San Francisco 16	
Tampa Bay 48, New Orleans 40	
Baltimore 47, Buffalo 5	
Cleveland 21, Pittsburgh 21, OT	
Kansas City 38, L.A. Chargers 28	
Washington 24, Arizona 6	
Denver 27, Seattle 24	
Carolina 16, Dallas 9	

Monday's games

N.Y. Jets at Cincinnati	
N.Y. Jets at Detroit	
L.A. Rams at Oakland	
Thursday, Sept. 13	
Baltimore at Cincinnati	
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay	
Houston at Tennessee	
Indianapolis at Washington	
Cleveland at New Orleans	
Kansas City at Pittsburgh	
Atlanta at N.Y. Jets	
Carolina at Atlanta	
Arizona at L.A. Rams	
Detroit at San Francisco	
A.C. Chargers at Buffalo	
New England at Jacksonville	
N.Y. Giants at Dallas	

Monday, Sept. 17

Seattle at Chicago	
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Newton, defense lead Panthers past Cowboys

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Panthers defensive tackle Kawann Short stood smiling at his locker sporting a new black golf shirt with three letters stitched on that read: G2X.

It was a present to the defensive linemen from new coordinator Eric Washington — a reminder of the motto of this year's unit.

"Getting to the spot, man; getting to the quarterback," Short said. "It's the mentality for everybody on defense."

The Panthers' defense did plenty of that Sunday, sacking quarterback Dak Prescott six times and limiting Dallas to 232 yards in a 16-8 victory over the Cowboys in the season opener.

Luke Kuechly had 13 tackles to lead the Panthers. Short had two sacks and Mario Addison added a game-clinching strip-sack of the Cowboys quarterback with 1:23 left.

Panthers 16, Cowboys 8

Dallas	0	0	8	8
Carolina	0	16	0	8-16

Car—Newton 4 run (Gano kick), 8:56.
Car—FG Gano 27, 33.

Fourth Quarter
Car—Armah 1 run (kick failed), 14:52.
Dal—Ellitt 4 run (Prescott run), 8:51.
A—74,532.

	Dal	Car
First downs	17	20
Total Net Yards	234	32
Rushes-yards	22-94	32-147
Passing	138	146
Punt Returns	2-13	4-62
Kickoff Returns	0-0	0-0
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	19-29-0	17-26-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	6-48	3-35
Punts	6-63	2-22
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Penalties-Yards	10-88	9-80
Time of Possession	29:24	30:36

Rushing—Dallas, Elliott 15-69, Prescott 5-19, R. Smith 1-5, Austin 1-1. Carolina, Newton 17-26-0-61.

Passing—Dallas, Prescott 19-29-0-17. Carolina, Newton 17-26-0-61.

Receiving—Dallas, Beasley 7-70, D. Thompson 3-27, Swain 3-18, Elliott 3-17, Hurts 1-20, Gallup 1-9, T. Williams 1-6, McCaffrey 6-45, Funchess 3-41, Wright 3-25, Olsen 2-33, Thomas 2-4, To Smith 1-15.

Missed field goals—Dallas, Maher 47.

Jack INT return, defense lead Jags over Giants

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Just like last season, the Jacksonville defense is carrying the team. Linebacker Myles Jack scored on a 32-yard interception return early in the fourth quarter and the Jaguars' defense showed no slippage from last year. They had two sacks, six quarterback pressures, eight tackles for losses, and stopped a 2-point conversion run.

Jaguars 20, Giants 15

Jacksonville	3	10	0	7-20
New York	2	3	0	6-15

First Quarter
Jac—FG Lambo 39, 10:12.
NYG—FG Rosas 27, 23.

Second Quarter
Jac—FG Lambo 39, 7:19.
NYG—Yeldon 1 pass from Bortles (Lambo kick), 2:42.

Third Quarter
NYG—FG Rosas 31, 0:4.

Fourth Quarter
Jac—Jack 32 interception return (Lambo kick), 11:24.
NYG—Burkley 68 run (uncuffed), 10:39.
A—77,992.

	Jac	NYG
First downs	17	15
Total Net Yards	283	213
Rushes-yards	28-137	23-114
Passing	168	210
Punt Returns	1-10	3-4
Kickoff Returns	2-45	1-15
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	18-33-1	23-37-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-9	1-0
Punts	7-37	5-49
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	11-119	6-43
Time of Possession	29:31	30:29

Rushing—Jacksonville, Yeldon 14-51, Bortles 4-42, Fournette 9-41, Grant 1-3. New York, Burkley 18-106, Stewart 2-8, Manning 1-2, Beckham 1 (minus 1), Gallman 1 (minus 1).

Passing—Jacksonville, Bortles 18-33-1, Yeldon 1-16, Manning 1-16, Fournette 3-25, Wentz 1-14, New York, Beckham 11-111, S. Shepard 2-16, Burkley 2-2, Ingram 2-18, Gallman 2-9, Ellison 1-6.

Cousins just what Vikings needed

MINNEAPOLIS — The throngs Kirk Cousins made in tight coverage at important times were on target. Unlike Jimmy Garoppolo, he kept the ball out of the other team's hands.

Cousins passed for two touchdowns and the Vikings forced four turnovers, fueling a win over San Francisco that stuck Garoppolo with his first loss in eight games as an NFL starting quarterback.

Vikings 24, 49ers 16

San Francisco	0	3	10	3-16
Minnesota	3	7	14	0-24

First Quarter
Min—FG Carlson 48, 3:56.
SF—FG Gould 42, 11:42.

Second Quarter
Min—Diggs 22 pass from Cousins (Carlson kick), 13:39.
SF—FG Gould 42, 11:42.

Third Quarter
Min—Hughes 28 interception return (Carlson kick), 9:15.
SF—FG Gould 33, 9:41.

Fourth Quarter
Min—Rudolph 11 pass from Cousins (Carlson kick), 4:27.
SF—Pettis 22 pass from Garoppolo (Gould kick), 3:11.

Fourth Quarter
SF—FG Gould 22, 8:09.
A—65,673.

	SF	Min
First downs	32	13
Total Net Yards	259	32
Rushes-yards	20-90	32-116
Passing	227	227
Punt Returns	2-14	3-7
Kickoff Returns	1-1	1-1
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	3-45
Comp-Att-Int	15-30-0	20-36-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-24	2-1
Punts	4-43	6-38
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	3-25	7-52
Time of Possession	28:51	31:09

Rushing—San Francisco, McCaffrey 11-46, Morris 12-38, Garoppolo 2-6, Minnesota, Murray 11-42, Cook 16-40, Cousins 2-46, Adams 1-8.

Passing—San Francisco, Garoppolo 15-33-0-261. Minnesota, Cousins 20-36-0-244.

Receiving—San Francisco, Kittle 5-90, T.Y. Taylor 4-28, Pettis 2-61, Garcon 2-91, Juszczyk 1-56, Breida 1-56. Minnesota, Thielen 6-102, Crowder 4-22, Diggs 3-43, Treadwell 1-20, Rudolph 1-11, Morgan 1-5, Conklin 1-6.



RICK SCUTERI/AP

Redskins running back Adrian Peterson scores a touchdown as Cardinals linebacker Deone Bucannon tries to make the stop during the first half on Sunday. Peterson ran for 96 yards.

Brady, Gronk open with win over Texans

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski sent New England fans into a panic this offseason when they hinted at retiring rather than returning to the Patriots in 2018.

On Sunday, it was the rest of the NFL watching in fear.

Brady threw for 277 yards and three touchdowns, hitting Gronkowski for 123 yards and a score to lead the defending AFC champions to a 27-20 victory over the Houston Texans. The reigning NFL MVP found Gronkowski seven times, including a 21-yard touchdown.

"It's very important that they came out and played the way they did. They're our leaders," said Phillip Dorsett, who had seven catches, including a touchdown. "When they play well, they give an adrenaline boost to the rest of the team."

Patriots 27, Texans 20

Houston	3	3	7	7-20
New England	3	7	3	3-27

First Quarter
NE—Gronkowski 21 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 11:50.
HOU—FG Fairbairn 42, 2:33.

Second Quarter
NE—White 12 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 12:38.
HOU—FG Fairbairn 36, 9:01.

Third Quarter
NE—Dorsett 4 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 1:14.

Fourth Quarter
NE—FG Gostkowski 29, 6:02.
HOU—Blue 1 run (Fairbairn kick), 1:52.

Fourth Quarter
NE—FG Gostkowski 9-68.
HOU—Ellington 5 pass from Watson (Fairbairn kick), 2:08.
A—65,878.

	Hou	NE
First downs	21	23
Total Net Yards	367	311
Rushes-yards	34-167	31-122
Passing	158	267
Punt Returns	1-20	0-0
Kickoff Returns	5-156	1-19
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	17-34-1	26-39-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-18	2-10
Punts	6-33	6-46
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	3-2
Penalties-Yards	6-46	6-36
Time of Possession	28:50	31:10

Rushing—Houston, Hopkins 8-78, Ellington 4-37, Atkins 2-11, Thomas 1-7, Ervin 1-16, Miller 1-11. New England, White 12-36, Peterson 4-22, Crowder 3-32, A. Peterson 2-70, Doctson 1-11, D. Johnson 5-30, Edmonds 4-24, Seals-Jones 3-19, Kirk 1-4.

Smith, Peterson lead Redskins to opening win

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Alex Smith looked like his old self. So did Adrian Peterson.

When the 34-year-old Smith wasn't carving up the Arizona defense, the 33-year-old Peterson was running through it.

The result was a Redskins win, coach Jay Gruden's first win in a season opener in five tries, and it was even more dominant than the final score would indicate.

"You guys put that monkey there. You guys kept reminding me about the dang 0-4 start," Gruden said.

"I thought the way we came out moving the ball, finishing drives in the red zone was big," Smith said. "It certainly started with running the football. I thought our O-line was dominant."

"The sky is the limit (for this offense)," Peterson said. "The offensive line speaks for itself and then you add C.T. (Chris Thompson) in there. That young guy got me going today."

Redskins 24, Cardinals 6

Washington	0	0	3	24
Arizona	0	0	0	6-6

First Quarter
Was—Thompson 13 pass from A. Smith (Hopkins kick), 14:54.
Was—A. Peterson 1 run (Hopkins kick), 4:10.

Second Quarter
Was—Reed 4 pass from A. Smith (Hopkins kick), 0:8.

Third Quarter
Was—FG Hopkins 31, 12:13.
Ari—D. Johnson 2 run (pass failed), 5:47.

Fourth Quarter
Was—FG Hopkins 31, 12:13.
Ari—D. Johnson 2 run (pass failed), 5:47.

	Was	Ari
First downs	30	14
Total Net Yards	429	213
Rushes-yards	42-182	15-68
Passing	247	145
Punt Returns	2-12	2-4
Kickoff Returns	2-24	0-0
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	21-30-0	20-34-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	4-36	2-8
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-1
Penalties-Yards	9-63	9-67
Time of Possession	38:08	21:52

Rushing—Washington, A. Peterson 26-96, Thompson 5-65, A. Smith 8-14, Kelley 3-7, Arizona, D. Johnson 3-7, Edmonds 4-24, Bradford 2-7.

Passing—Washington, Thompson 6-63, Reed 4-8, Richardson 4-22, Crowder 3-32, A. Peterson 2-70, Doctson 1-11, D. Johnson 5-30, Edmonds 4-24, Seals-Jones 3-19, Kirk 1-4.

—Associated Press

The Panthers' Kawann Short sacks Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott during the second half on Sunday in Charlotte, N.C.

MIKE MCCANN/AP

NFL

Rodgers returns from injury to drive rally

By GENARO C. ARMAS
Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Slowed by a sore knee, Aaron Rodgers picked up the pace behind center. Remarkably, the two-time NFL MVP was more effective against the Chicago Bears after returning from what initially looked like a serious injury.

The hobbling quarterback threw three touchdown passes in the fourth quarter after returning from injury, and the Green Bay Packers overcame a 20-point deficit for a thrilling 24-23 win over the Bears on Sunday night.

Rodgers connected with receiver Randall Cobb for a catch-and-run through the secondary for a 75-yard touchdown and the go-ahead score with 2:13 left in the game.

"You've seen it time and time again. That guy's a warrior," Cobb said.

Rodgers was hurt in the second quarter after slipping to the turf while under pressure from line-backer Khalil Mack and defensive lineman Roy Robertson-Harris. The lineman landed on Rodgers, who grabbed the back of his left leg. He had ACL surgery on his left knee in college.

Rodgers was carted back to the locker room. Doctors determined he did not suffer a major injury and cleared him to return in the second half.

The Packers had to make a slight adjustment with their normally mobile quarterback limited to the pocket.

"Got to get the ball out. Can't be moving around a whole lot back there," Rodgers said. "And we did a good job mixing things up in the second half with some



MIKE ROEMER/AP

The Packers' Aaron Rodgers gets away from the Bears' Akiem Hicks on Sunday in Green Bay, Wis.

of our quicker-hitter stuff and actually some of our more vertical stuff, too."

Rodgers also had touchdown passes to Geronimo Allison (39 yards) and Davante Adams (12 yards) in completing the rally from a 20-0 deficit with 9:14 to go in the third quarter.

Rodgers finished 20-for-30 for 286 yards, including 17 of 23 for 273 yards in the second half.

"Obviously, that's a tough one for us. It stings," coach Matt Nagy said after his Bears debut.

Mack attack: A Chicago defense featuring newly acquired star line-backer Khalil Mack dominated until the third quarter. Mack had a 27-yard interception return for a touchdown against backup quarterback DeShone Kizer in the second. He had a strip-sack that led to

another turnover. He had pressure in the backfield on a play in which Rodgers hurt his left knee.

This from a player who missed the entire preseason. The Bears acquired Mack last week in a trade with the Oakland Raiders.

"I prepared all offseason for the first game of the season and I wanted to ... make an impact," Mack said. "But you want to win these games. That's the only thing on my mind. I hate losing."

Fast start: An offensive-minded coach, Nagy had the aggressive Bears' offense pushing the Packers around the field in the first half. Mitchell Trubisky was 23 of 35 for 171 yards. He also ran for 32 yards on seven carries, including a 2-yard touchdown run in the first quarter. It turned out to be

the only offensive touchdown the Bears would score all night. The Packers' defense, in new coordinator Mike Pettine's first game, held the Bears to two field goals in the second half.

"You know we talked about finishing and we didn't do that," Nagy said.

Comeback complete: Nick Perry sacked the Bears' Mitchell Trubisky on fourth-and-10 with 58 seconds to complete the comeback. It was memorable start to the Packers' 100th season. Sunday marked the first time in franchise history that the Packers won after trailing by 17-plus points entering the fourth quarter, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

More Rodgers: Packers coach Mike McCarthy said he was pre-

pared to go with Kizer to start the second half until getting the word from the team doctor in the tunnel.

"His performance speaks for itself," McCarthy said.

Rodgers said he knee was swollen after the game. The Packers plan to run more tests on their QB on Monday, though Rodgers seems very optimistic to about his availability for next week's game against Minnesota.

"No, I'm planning on playing," Rodgers said.

Packers 24, Bears 23

Chicago	10	3	3-23
Green Bay	0	3	21-24

First Quarter
Chi.—Trubisky 2 run (Parker kick), 7:11.

Chi.—FG Parker 26, 14:56.
Chi.—Mack 27 interception return (Parker kick), 35.

Second Quarter
Chi.—FG Parker 33, 5:14.

Third Quarter
GB.—FG Crosby 42, 3:37.

Fourth Quarter
GB.—Allison 39 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 13:59.

Chi.—Allison 12 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 9:01.

Chi.—FG Parker 32, 2:39.

GB.—Cobb 75 pass from Rodgers (Crosby kick), 2:13.

A.—(8-22).

Individual Statistics

First downs Chi 18 GB 16

Total Net Yards 294 370

Rushes-yards 23-139 18-69

Passing 155 301

Punt Returns 2-45 1-17

Kickoff Returns 1-18 3-68

Interceptions Ret. 1-27 0-0

Comp.-Int. 23-35-0 24-37-1

Sacked-Yards Lost 4-16 4-40

Fumbles-Lost 4-50-3 2-1

Penalties-Yards 5-35 6-72

Time of Possession 30:30 29:38

RUSHING—Green Bay, Rodgers 30-30-68, Trubisky 7-32, Cohen 5-25. Green Bay, Williams 15-47, Rodgers 1-15, Montgomery 1-1.

PASSING—Chicago, Trubisky 23-35-0, 171 yards, 1 TD. Green Bay, Rodgers 24-36-286, 3 TDs.

Kicker 4-15-55.

RECEIVING—Chicago, Gabriel 5-25, Howard 5-25, Robinson 4-61, Cohen 3-15, Miller 2-14, Sims 2-16, Teburtin 1-15, M.Dartan 1-5. Green Bay, Cobb 9-142, D.Adams 5-88, Allison 5-69, Montgomery 2-21, Graham 2-8, Kendrick 1-13.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

Dolphins 27, Titans 20

Tennessee	3	0	17-20
Miami	0	3	17-27

First Quarter
Ten.—FG Succop 47, 10:18.

Second Quarter
Mia.—Stills 10 pass from Tannehill (Sanders kick), 11:21.

Third Quarter
Mia.—FG Sanders 27, 4:05.

Fourth Quarter
Ten.—D.Lewis 4 run (Succop kick), 14:17.

Mia.—Grant 102 kickoff return (Sanders kick), 14:24.

Mia.—Stills 75 pass from Tannehill (Sanders kick), 10:22.

Ten.—Jennings 94 kickoff return (Succop kick), 10:11.

Mia.—FG Sanders 30, 3:49.

Ten.—FG Succop 53, 1:11.

A.—65-184.

Individual Statistics

RUSHING—Tennessee, D.Lewis 16-75, Henry 10-25, Mariota 3-15. Miami, Gore 9-61, Drake 14-48, Wilson 2-7, Tannehill 4-4.

PASSING—Tennessee, Mariota 9-16-210, Gabbert 1-1-22-117. Miami, Tannehill 20-28-220.

RECEIVING—Tennessee, C.Davis 6-62, D.Lewis 3-35, Walker 4-52, Stoker 2-37, Sharpe 1-17, Smith 1-12, Henry 1-5. Miami, Grant 5-38, Stills 4-106, Amendola 4-26, Wilson 3-31, Drake 3-18, Gesicki 1-11.

Dolphins overcome 2 weather delays

By STEVEN WINE
Associated Press

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — Jakeem Grant won the longest game with the longest play.

Grant struck like lightning when he scored on a tiebreaking 102-yard kickoff return with 14 minutes to go, and the Miami Dolphins overcame two weather delays to win the longest game since the 1970 NFL-AFL merger, beating the Tennessee Titans 27-20 Sunday.

Delays for lightning lasted a total of 3 hours, 59 minutes, and the game took 7 hours, 8 minutes to play. The previous longest game since 1970 was a Bears overtime victory against the Ravens in 2013 that took 5 hours, 16 minutes.

Grant's touchdown triggered a late flurry of big plays in a season opener that was lackluster for the first six hours.

After his score, Ryan Tannehill hit Kenny Stills deep for a 75-yard touchdown. Darius Jennings returned the ensuing kickoff 94 yards for a Titans score, and they



WILFREDO LEE/AP

Dolphins tight end Mike Gesicki celebrates a run during the second half of against the Titans in Miami Gardens, Fla.

were driving when Miami's Reshad Jones helped to clinch the win with a 54-yard return after he intercepted Blaine Gabbert.

"I love the way we responded — the way we were able to overcome the delays, to come out with energy after sitting around," Tan-

nehill said. "To come away from this long day, this grind of a game, and get a win, it feels good."

Titans starting quarterback Marcus Mariota threw two interceptions in the third quarter and then came out of the game with an elbow injury. Tight end Delanie Walker was carted off the field later in the period with a right leg injury, and tackle Taylor Lewan suffered a concussion, all of which meant a miserable start for Mike Vrabel in his head coaching debut.

Walker's injury appeared the most serious.

"I haven't seen him since he left the field," Vrabel said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with him."

Miami led 7-3 when the game was suspended for nearly two hours late in the first half. The teams went to the locker room during the delay and stayed on the field for halftime, which was shortened to 3½ minutes.

Lightning forced a halt again midway through the third quarter, and the second stoppage lasted just over two hours. Per-

haps 10,000 fans remained at the finish.

"That's the job we have — to make sure we play through whatever situation," Vrabel said. "I felt we handled it well, but in the end we didn't do enough to win the game."

Sandwiched between the delays was a brawl that started after Lewan appeared to be briefly knocked out. Jordan Phillips and Bobby McCain of Miami and Dion Lewis of Tennessee received off-setting unsportsmanlike conduct penalties for taunting, and Lewan missed the rest of the game.

Mariota was hurt early after the third quarter when hit on the right side by William Hayes. Mariota missed one play, and then returned to throw two interceptions before again coming out of the lineup.

He said he couldn't feel his fingers or grip the ball well, and hinted he shouldn't have returned to the game.

"I'm not using it as an excuse, but I should have made sure I was making the best decision for the team," he said.

NFL



DAVID RICHARD/AP

Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon, bottom, cannot hold onto the ball under pressure from Steelers defensive back Joe Haden, top, during the second half of Sunday's game in Cleveland.

Browns come up short of win

Steelers block field goal attempt in OT, deny Cleveland first victory since 2016

By Tom Withers
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — When the ball deflected off T.J. Watt's left hand and fluttered to a waterlogged landing, well short of the crossbar, there was nothing more the Browns could do.

Their 17-game losing streak was over. Without a win — or a loss. Nothing to celebrate.

"A sour feeling," quarterback Tyrod Taylor said.

Cleveland didn't take advantage of forcing six turnovers by Pittsburgh and missed a chance at its first win since 2016 on Sunday, tying the Steelers 21-21 in overtime in a game that turned into another emotional roller-coaster for fans who were so close to seeing their team go 1-0 for the first time in 14 years.

But the Browns, being the Browns, couldn't finish the job. "Tying in the NFL is really weird," left guard Joel Bitonio said. "I never even thought I would be a part of it."

Bitonio could have never imagined playing on an 0-16 team, either, but that's what happened last season when the Browns went through their entire schedule without posting a win. At least that can't happen again.

Watt capped a brilliant performance by blocking Zane Gonzalez's 43-yard field-goal try with 9 seconds left to preserve the tie for the Steelers, whose drama-filled week around Le'Veon Bell ended with more theatrics.

It was the league's first Week 1 tie since 1971, and the first time in 133 games the Browns and

Steelers couldn't settle their rivalry on the field.

The Browns rallied from a 21-17 deficit in the fourth quarter to stun the Steelers, who blew their own chance to win it in OT when Chris Boswell's 42-yard field goal attempt sailed wide left.

Pittsburgh was without Bell, whose contract holdout will carry into the season's second week. But the Steelers, who sacked Taylor seven times, refused to offer any excuses after falling dangerously close to becoming the first team to lose to the Browns in Week 1 since 2004.

"Hell yeah, it feels like a loss," Steelers defensive tackle Cam Heyward said. "I'm sorry for using that kind of language, but if we settle for those, we're going to be an awfully (steamed) off bunch. We didn't get the job done. I credit T.J. for getting that block, but the outcome was already decided. It just gives you a sick taste in your mouth."

Here are some other takeaways from the league's first tie in two seasons:

Bad Ben: Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger hardly looked like a future Hall of Famer, throwing three interceptions in the first half and losing two fumbles. He made some uncharacteristic errors, forcing a pass into double-coverage that was picked off by Browns rookie cornerback Denzel Ward, who had two interceptions in his pro debut.

Great Garrett: Browns defensive end Myles Garrett seemed to be everywhere. He forced two fumbles, recorded two sacks and rushed Roethlisberger into making some indecisive throws.



RON SCHWANE/AP

Steelers running back James Conner celebrates scoring a 22-yard touchdown during the second half on Sunday.

Browns 21, Steelers 21 (OT)

Pittsburgh	0	7	14	0	0-21
Cleveland	0	0	7	14	0-21
Second Quarter					
Pit—Conner 4 run (Boswell kick), 11:16.					

Third Quarter					
Cle—Taylor 20 run (Gonzalez kick), 10:05.					
Pit—Brown 22 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 8:24.					
Pit—Conner 22 run (Boswell kick), 5:23.					

Fourth Quarter					
Cle—Hyde 1 run (Gonzalez kick), 7:32.					
Cle—Gordon 17 pass from Taylor (Gonzalez kick), 1:58.					
A—67, 431.					

A-67,431.			Pit	Cle
First downs			25	22
Total Net Yards			472	327
Rushes-yards	35-159	38-150		
Passing			313	150
Punt Returns			5-56	1-15
Kickoff Returns			3-69	3-46
Interceptions Ret.			1-0	3-26
Comp-Att-Int	23-41-3	15-40-1		
Sacked-Yards Lost			4-22	7-47
Punts			7-39.3	12-43.5
Fumbles-Lost			3-3	1-0
Penalties-Yards			12-116	11-87
Time of Possession			35:12	34:48

Rushing—Pittsburgh: Conner 31-135, Roethlisberger 3-16, Switzer 1-6, Cleveland, Taylor 9-77, Hyde 22-62, Chubb 3-21, Johnson 5-17.

Passing—Pittsburgh: Roethlisberger 23-41-3-35. **Cleveland:** Taylor 15-40-1-197.

Receiving—Pittsburgh: Brown 9-93, Smith-Schuster 5-113, Conner 5-57, James 3-40, Hunter 1-6, Cleveland, Landry 7-109, Njoku 3-13, Higgins 1-38, Gordon 1-17, Fells 1-12, Johnson 1-8, Hyde 1-3.

Missed field goals—Pittsburgh: Boswell 42.

Win: Opening weekend offered plenty of thrills

even without Le'Veon Bell. The All-Pro running back is still holding out over a bitter contract dispute, causing some animosity among his teammates. Backup James Conner had 135 yards rushing and two touchdowns and caught five passes for 57 yards. But Ben Roethlisberger threw three interceptions and fumbled twice, and Conner's fumble in the fourth quarter helped the Browns rally.

Conner, a star at Pitt who became a city favorite while recovering from a cancer diagnosis in November 2015, may have cost Bell some leverage with his strong performance.

Tyrod Taylor's 17-yard touchdown pass to Josh Gordon sent it to overtime, and neither team could find a way to win it on a wet, sloppy field.

In case you missed it, here are the other top topics after the NFL season's opening Sunday:

Breathe easy, Wisconsin: Aaron Rodgers returned in the second half after being carted off the field with a knee injury and led the Packers back from a 20-0 deficit to a 24-23 win over the Bears. Rodgers threw three touchdown passes, including a 75-yarder to Randall Cobb with 2:13 left in the game. The stadium fell silent and everyone in Green Bay panicked when Rodgers went down. The Packers missed the playoffs after losing Rodgers last season and are 6-10-1 without him since 2013. Backup DeShone Kizer threw a pick six to Khalil Mack, who disappeared in the second half after a dominant start in his first game for Chicago.

Big play Bucks: Ryan Fitzpatrick had a 417-yard, four-touchdown performance filling in for the suspended Jason Winston in a 48-40 upset at New England. Fitzpatrick threw touchdown passes of 50 yards to Mike Evans and 58 and 36 yards to DeSean Jackson. The Buccaneers had 529 total yards against the Saints, who countered with 475. Tampa Bay, coming off a 5-11 season, was the biggest underdog of the weekend at 9½ points.

Beckham is back: Odell Beckham Jr. had 11 catches for 111 yards and drew two pass interference penalties on the same drive in his first game since last October following ankle surgery. Beckham won the 1-on-1 battle against outspoken All-Pro cornerback Jalen Ramsey, but the New York Giants lost the game. The Jaguars got a pick six by Myles Jack in a 20-15 victory on the road.

Philly Philly: Needing a spark for his season-opening offense, Eagles coach Doug Pederson turned to a familiar trick play in the third quarter of Philadelphia's 18-12 victory over Atlanta on Thursday night. Quarterback Nick Foles caught a 15-yard pass from wide receiver Nelson Agholor to extend a drive that ended with a touchdown. Foles caught a 1-yard TD pass from tight end Trey Burton



BRUCE KLUCKHOHN/AP

49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo is sacked by Vikings Sheldon Richardson, left, and Everson Griffen, right, on Sunday. Garoppolo lost for the first time as a starter, throwing three interceptions in Minnesota's 24-16 victory.

in the first half of Philadelphia's 41-33 win over New England in the Super Bowl. That play was called "Philly Special." This one was "Philly Philly." Pederson used the same personnel group, but a different formation this time around.

National anthem: Miami Dolphins receivers Kenny Stills and Albert Wilson were the only two players to kneel during the national anthem opening weekend. Colin Kaepernick called them "brothers" and thanked them on social media. Dolphins teammate Robert Quinn raised his fist. Niners receiver Marquise Goodwin did the same at San Francisco's game at Minnesota. Broncos receiver Demaryius Thomas and linebacker Brandon Marshall, and Seahawks linemen Duane Brown and Jonathan Jefferson, retreated to their respective tunnels while the anthem played. In Los Angeles, Chargers left tackle Russell Okung raised his fist.

Trolling the 'Boys: Former Cowboys receiver Dez Bryant had fun taking shots at his old team during an 18-6 loss at Carolina. Bryant wrote on Twitter: "It's kind of cool calling out all of the signals and knowing which route players are about run." He engaged with fans, suggested he'd have success in New England or Washington and said he didn't think Cowboys owner Jerry Jones wanted him out of Dallas.

Jimmy Garoppolo(Nooooo): Playing his first game since signing his megadeal with San Francisco following seven career starts, Jimmy Garoppolo didn't look like a \$137.5 million quarterback. He tossed three interceptions in a 24-16 loss to Minnesota, including a pick six. Garoppolo was 2-of-4 as a starter for the Patriots in 2016 and 5-0 for the 49ers last year.

SPORTS



14-time champion
Djokovic ties idol Sampras
with US Open win » **Page 25**

NFL: WEEK 1

Streak snapped

Browns avoid 18th straight loss — but still don't win

By ROB MAADDI
Associated Press

Browns tie! Browns tie! Browns tie!
It's not a win, but Cleveland will take it after going 0-16 last year and 1-15 in 2016.
The Browns rallied from a 14-point deficit in the fourth quarter

against the rival Steelers and snapped a 17-game losing streak with a 21-21 result that left fans celebrating in the rain. They had a chance to win the game, but Pittsburgh's T.J. Watt blocked Zane Gonzalez's 43-yard field-goal attempt with 9 seconds left in overtime.

For a while, it seemed the Steelers would cruise to another easy win over the Browns

SEE WIN ON PAGE 31



Browns RB Carlos Hyde celebrates after scoring during the second half of Sunday's game against Pittsburgh in Cleveland. The Browns and Steelers tied 21-21, snapping Cleveland's 17-game losing streak.

DAVID RICHARD/AP

Inside: Rodgers returns from injury to rally Packers over Bears, Page 30

